

GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

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**REGISTRATION FORM
GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY 1990 MEETING
SEPTEMBER 7,8,9**

PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE AUG. 7

Registration cost of \$27.00 (before August 7) or \$32.00 (after August 7) includes the following:

Registration, Friday Reception, Saturday Barbecue Dinner, Programs and Entertainment

Date: _____

Registration Fee:

(Before August 7)

(After August 7)

_____ x \$27.00

_____ x \$32.00

Total

List the name of each person attending as you want it to appear on the name tag: _____

Street: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip Code _____

Phone# _____

Make check payable to: GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

Mail REGISTRATION and CHECK to:

Anna Thompson Ex. Dir.
P.O. Box 262
Manchaca, Tex. 78652

HOTEL RESERVATION

A block of fifty rooms is being held at the special GTHS rate of \$36.00 plus tax at Brenham's PREFERENCE INN. Registration deadline at PREFERENCE INN is Aug 7, 1990. Please reserve early to insure the special GTHS room rate.

Name _____

Address: _____

Street: _____ City _____ State & zip _____

Phone number and area code: _____ - _____ - _____

Mail HOTEL RESERVATION to:

PREFERENCE INN
201 Highway 290 Loop East
Brenham, Texas 77833

For additional hotel details or phone reservations call: 409-830-1110.
See Hotel location on Brenham map (elsewhere in Journal)

	FRONT COVER-Board, Officers, Committee Chairpersons, Editorial Board
ABOUT GTHS	102 - President's Message: Ann Lindemann
	103 - Message cont.; Membership Report: Anna Thompson
	104 - Editor's Notes, List of Information Submitted By (ISS)
	105 - GTHS 1990 Meeting, Registration & Hotel Reservation Form
	106 - Invitation: Elizabeth Lehmann
	107 - Program Outline: Miriam York
	108 - Banquet & Optional Tour
	109 - Map of Location
EVENTS - PLACES	110 - Handbook and Registry: W.M. Von-Maszewski
	112 - Calendar of Events
	113 - Freiheit; Gartenkonzerts; Boerne Fest
	114 - Brenham 100th Anniversary of Malfest
	116 - Anniversaries: Texas Lutheran College; Schatzkammer; Industry
	117 - Anhalt Festivals
	118 - Muenster Festival; Tomball Community Museum
	119 - Guenau Community and Verein Hall
	120 - Wendish Heritage Museum
	121 - Sophienburg Museum & Archives
	122 - New Braunfels Conservation Society
	123 - Museum of Handmade Furniture
TRAVEL	124 - Treybig Trip; Travel in Europe
	125 - Visiting East Berlin
CULTURE	126 - Goethe Institut
	128 - German Song Fest
	129 - Elisabet Ney Museum Association
	130 - Deutsch Texanischer Saengerbund - Beethoven Damenchor
	131 - Rathkamp Dancers; Dallas Frohsinn Singing Society
	132 - German-American Cultural Center Plans in San Antonio
PRESERVATION	134 - German Sport: Bowling in Marion
	135 - Book Rot; Encapsulation
	136 - Blue Mound Restoration; Texas State Jr. Historians
HISTORY - RESEARCH	138 - Pressler Adventure
	144 - Baylor "Adlesverein" Symposium
	145 - Southwest Archivist Article about Wendish Museum
	146 - Kapp Family Story
	148 - Seguin Milling Company (the way it was)
PEOPLE	150 - Asta Grona; Karl Hoblitzelle; Fredricksburg German Visitor
	151 - Ann Derr; German Exchange Students in Muenster, Tx.
	152 - Francine Hartman GTHS Award
	153 - Hilda Graeter
	154 - Houston Economic Summit & Houston's German Immigrants
	156 - Minister's German Language Sabbatical; Dewitt County Germans
	157 - German Student Clubs of El Campo and La Grange
GENERAL INFORMATION	159 - Almanac; Nassau Plantation; German Folk Art; Eldernostel
	159 - Member Request; English in German Language; Muenster Council
	160 - Society for German American Studies
	162 - Books for Sale
	164 - Humor
GENEALOGY	166 - Bits and Pieces and News
	167 - From Our Members
	172 - GTHS Members' Genealogical Exchange
	173 - Texas Bandemer Family Reunion: Wilbur & Lynette Bandemer
	174 - Schumann Ancestors: Clarence A. Scheel
	177 - Olfers Family Reunion: Edna Felps
	178 - Blankenburg-Foester and Hoelscher-Buxkemper Family Reunions; Westphalian Descendants Sought
	179 - Family Affair: Hoelscher-Buxkemper Reunion
	180 - Beinhorn Family Reminiscences: Herbert L. Beinhorn
	183 - Teacher Tracks Ancestral History: Marie Gottfried
	184 - Wilrich/Willrich Family: Katharine G. Powell
	185 - Did They Arrive at Ellis Island?
	186 - Endlich Geschafft! Lang/Willrich Family
	187 - Clemens G. L. G. Hartmann: Marianne E. Little
	188 - Looking for Jacob Hirsch: Del Hirsch
END OF ISSUE	189 - German-Texan Heritage Society Publications, Membership
	INSIDE BACK COVER-Publication Schedule; Annual Meetings; Addresses

ABOUT GTHS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Ann Lindemann

The establishment and growth of GTHS can be attributed to the dedication, determination and persistent efforts of the Society's founders. Now it is up to all of us to see that the aims, goals and driving force of the Society does not lose momentum as GTHS progresses in it's second decade. The Society must strive to attain new levels of development, and accomplishment.

The Directors want GTHS to be a source of pride for all members. It is important for members to express ideas and offer suggestions so intelligent, responsible decisions are made for the organization. Involvement by all one thousand (+) individual members is essential. PLEASE make your GTHS wishes known. (send to: P.O. Box 218, Industry, TX 78944)

At the May 5th Board meeting several new avenues and directions were explored. A new project of researching early Texas German-language newspapers was put into motion. Preservation of information in frail and deteriorating condition is considered an urgent priority. Further loss of rare material is a serious tragedy for all German-Texans. It is extremely important to discover the number, location, condition, and other pertinent facts about any early German-language papers that still exist. This project is in its infancy, but as investigations and discoveries are made a plan of action will be implemented. Help in locating all materials for preservation will be needed.

In other Board business it was announced, that Colleges who responded to GTHS' offer, received a gift membership and Biesele book to award to an honored student. Five institutions of higher learning presented these GTHS awards during their Honor Days Programs this spring. (see SWTSU article in this JOURNAL) If you know a Texas school that may wish to participate in this program next year please contact me or the GTHS office.

Collecting entries for Volume II of the GTHS HANDBOOK AND REGISTRY has begun. W. M. Von-Maszewski has outlined the procedure for submitting entries in this JOURNAL. A reminder that this project is not one individual's responsibility, but rather the duty of all GTHS members. It is up to you to make sure no subject is overlooked. The editor of the HANDBOOK can only compile what is collected. Each person is encouraged to submit entries to make sure no subjects are excluded from Vol. II. This is a collective effort involving all GTHS members.

Membership is increasing thanks to efforts of a lot of dedicated people. You the members are the most valuable information source GTHS has in spreading the word about this Society. Keep encouraging persons you know to join us. A summary of membership can be found elsewhere in this issue.

A schedule of some GTHS dates appeared in the JOURNAL (Vol XI, #3, page 173) This issue (1990 # 2) is slated for delivery on Aug. 1, and the final (1990 #3) JOURNAL is scheduled to be delivered by December 1. I was one of the last persons to receive JOURNAL #1. It was explained that the U.S. Postal Service bulk rate is faster if there are 10 or more JOURNALS sent to the same zip code. Logically I need to get more members in my area for me to receive my JOURNAL sooner. This may be a solution to persons wanting faster delivery!

It has also become necessary to allow four weeks for the completed JOURNAL manuscript to be prepared by the printer. We receive excellent rates and a great deal of personal detailed attention from Sergei Kabantschuk our printer. However, we must wait our turn for this service and adding additional time for this process is necessary. Please observe the deadline dates, then allow time for printer and mail service. (Editing the JOURNAL has made me more aware of the complicated process involved in receiving the JOURNAL promptly.)

EDITOR'S NOTES

The following list of contributors to this JOURNAL was prepared to standardize the method of acknowledging persons responsible for supplying information contained in this issue. (note: due to the organized methods of Genealogy Editor, Theresa Gold, donors of material found in that section are not repeated here.) Our apologies for omission or oversight of individuals that may have unintentionally occurred.

To everyone listed here, and contributors in the Genealogy Section, GTHS extends a sincere thank you. We are most grateful to you for sharing information as well as your diligence in observing, collecting and forwarding the data. We would like to encourage everyone to become involved in this substantial collective effort for the benefit all GTHS members. [Note: parenthesis with (ISB #) refers to the following list.]

INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Annie Becker, Seguin | 16. Allan Kloess, Dallas |
| 2. Juanita Bright, Muenster | 17. John Kroulik, Houston |
| 3. Ingrid Brock, Corpus Christi | 18. Hertha Scott, Moulton |
| 4. Mary El-Behri, San Antonio | 19. Elizabeth Lehmann, Brenham |
| 5. Louis Fink, San Antonio | 20. Dona R.-Marquardt, Buda |
| 6. Estelle Froehner, Cost | 21. Helgard Suhr, New Braunfels |
| 7. Daphne Garrett, Houston | 22. Leola Tiedt, La Grange |
| 8. Patsy Goebel, Cureo | 23. Anna Thompson, Austin |
| 9. Theresa Gold, San Antonio | 24. Arliss Treybig, El Campo |
| 10. Marie Gottfried, Brookshire | 25. W. M. Von-Maszewski, Pasadena |
| 11. Frances Harrison, San Antonio | 26. D.U. Von Rosenberg, Dallas |
| 12. Lori Haskarl, Brenham | 27. Lorene Windel, Houston |
| 13. Zada Bremer Johnson, Bulverde | 28. Miriam York, Giddings |
| 14. Gilbert Jordan, Austin | 29. GTHS Office &/or editors |
| 15. Rodney Koenig, Houston | |

Material to be included in the next JOURNAL may be sent in right now:

send to: **GTHS JOURNAL EDITOR**
 P.O. Box 218
 Industry, TX 78944

or **JOURNAL**
 c/o P.O. Box 262
 Manchaca, TX 78652

Genealogy material may be sent to:

GTHS GENEALOGY EDITOR
 106 Ranchland
 San Antonio, TX 78213

or **JOURNAL-GENEALOGY**
 P.O. Box 262
 Manchaca, TX 78652

Deadline for inclusion in JOURNAL # 3 has been changed to October 13, 1990. This will allow time to compile, four weeks for printing, and one week for mail and this should permit delivery by Dec. 1st. Your help in submitting information early is very important for a more prompt JOURNAL. (Thanks for your cooperation)

* We will compile a CALENDAR OF GERMAN-TEXAN EVENTS, CELEBRATIONS AND *
 * ACTIVITIES FOR 1991 in JOURNAL #3. If you know the date of a special *
 * event or activity in your area please send that information for the next *
 * JOURNAL. Include the date, place, event, brief description and phone # *
 * for more information if possible. (Example: *
 * May 1991 *
 * -2nd weekend-BREHAM MAYFEST *
 * -German food, music, parades, "gemütlichkeit" *
 * -#409-865-3695) *

* This 1991 year calendar will list all the German-Texan dates of *
 * communities and organizations throughout the state and give everyone an *
 * advanced idea of activities and happenings throughout 1991. Your help *
 * will be needed so we may have a complete listing. Send this information *
 * to the JOURNAL EDITOR (above address) TODAY! *

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GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY 1990 MEETING
SEPTEMBER 7,8,9**

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Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code _____ Phone# _____

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Anna Thompson Ex. Dir.
P.O. Box 262
Manchaca, Tex. 78652

*** A copy of this form is in the front of this JOURNAL. Please
cut it out and return it with your check. ***

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Address: _____

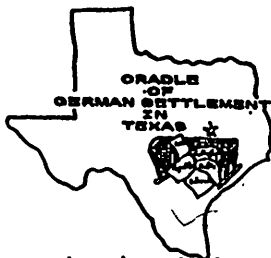
Street: _____ City _____ State & zip _____

Phone number and area code: _____ - _____ - _____

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PREFERENCE INN
201 Highway 290 Loop East
Brenham, Texas 77833

For additional hotel details or phone reservations call: 409-830-1110.
See Hotel location on Brenham map (elsewhere in Journal)



Einladung/Invitation

Come by auto, bus or air to the host town of Brenham for the GTHS annual meeting. Some extras for those who come early on Fri. Sept. 7, will include Blue Bell tour & souvenir shop (tour every 30 minutes-until 3 PM) Brenham's Preference Inn, will be the site of the meeting, It is located at 201 U.S. 290 (east loop).

Easterwood Airport in College Station serves airlines from Dallas, Austin and Houston and is 40 miles from Brenham. Rental cars (Avis, Hertz, Budget) are available. (Easterwood Airport telephone is 409-845-5103.)

Enthusiastic, informed researchers, authors and historians are eager to tell about early German settlements of the five host counties.

James Lindemann, editor of HISTORICAL ACCOUNTS OF INDUSTRY, TEXAS 1831-1986, will introduce the theme of the program with information about Industry, the first permanent German settlement in Texas. He will also give information about other early German settlements in Austin County. Arliss Treybig descends from some of Colorado County's pioneer Germans, she has published family genealogies and will speak about early Colorado County German settlements.

Daphne Garrett will share her research on Nassau and Biegel settlement in Fayette County. Daphne is associated with the Wendish Museum and has authored a number of historical articles including works for the HANDBOOK OF TEXAS. Jack Wiederhold, closely associated with Wendish research and East German study, will discuss the Wendish settlement at Serbin in Lee County.

Germans first came to Washington County in 1848, but they came by the hundreds into the 1900's. Dr. W.O. Dietrich, head of Blinn Jr. College English Department and author of THE BLAZING STORY OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, will tell about the German influence in Washington County.

TAMU history professor, Walter Kamphoefner, recently completed work at Bochum University in Germany. His work IMMIGRANT LETTERS DURING THE CIVIL WAR (Vol. I) will be published by Cornell University Press next year. This project will be the subject of Dr. Kamphoefner's address.

German immigrants' trip from Bremen to Galveston (1840's-1850's) will be highlighted by a report by Jeff Lindemann, following research in Bremen this summer. Lindemann has written a number of text books and is associated with Houston Community College. W.M. Von-Maszewski, editor of the GTHS HANDBOOK, will share his research on the cultural heritage of the Brenham Volksfest/Maifest. The centennial of this event was held this past May.

GTHS genealogists Theresa Gold and Robert Robinson-Zwahr will conduct a session on German Genealogy. Both these individuals have published their families' histories and are highly qualified and extremely knowledgeable about the subject.

Marjorie von Rosenberg will give a talk on German-Texan artist Elizabeth Ney's life and work. Ney's Liendo Plantation is a tourist attraction in neighboring Waller County--once part of Austin County. Lisa Kahn will read some of her poetry in German and English. Dr. Kahn is a part time resident in Fayette County, when not reading poetry and prose in Germany, Austria or any number of places in the USA.

Pastor Robert J. Koenig of Giddings will conduct a German worship service on Sunday morning. Rev. Koenig has written several books including PAUSE TO PONDER and A HISTORY OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH--MISSOURI SYNOD.

Program Chairperson Miriam York, a descendant of Friedrich Ernst--the "Father of German Immigration in Texas", has planned this program to show the area of Texas which historians have labeled as the "CRADLE OF GERMAN SETTLEMENT IN TEXAS". The aim of this program theme is to expose the enormous German influence that exists and has survived in this section of Texas.

GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY 1990 ANNUAL MEETING
CRADLE OF GERMAN SETTLEMENTS IN TEXAS

Program

Friday, September 7

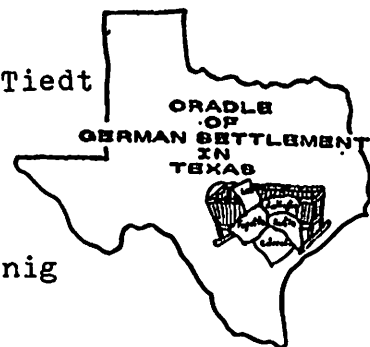
- 4:00 p.m. REGISTRATION
 7:00 p.m. RECEPTION - Social Hour (cash bar)
 HISTORICAL WASHINGTON COUNTY - Stanley Sommer
 Slide presentation
 MUSIC - Winedale Froehliche Gesangverien

Saturday, September 8

- BREAKFAST (on own)
 8:50 a.m. WELCOME
 9:00 a.m. EARLY GERMAN SETTLEMENTS IN AUSTIN COUNTY (Industry, Cat Spring, Shelby, New Wehdem) - James Lindemann
 9:30 a.m. EARLY GERMAN SETTLEMENTS IN FAYETTE COUNTY (Biegel Settlement, Nassau) - Mrs. Daphne Garrett
 10:00 a.m. COFFEE BREAK
 10:30 a.m. THE WENDS AT SERBIN - Jack Wiederhold
 11:00 a.m. GERMAN PIONEERS IN WASHINGTON COUNTY - Dr. W. O. Dietrich
 11:30 a.m. EARLY GERMAN SETTLEMENTS IN COLORADO COUNTY - Miss Arliss Treybig
 12:00 noon LUNCH (on own)
 1:30 p.m. GERMAN IMMIGRANT LETTERS - Dr. Walter Kamphoefner
 2:00 p.m. THE GERMAN IMMIGRANT'S TRIP FROM BREMEN TO INDUSTRY, TEXAS - Jeff Lindemann
 2:30 p.m. BLUEBELL ICE CREAM BREAK
 3:00 p.m. ELIZABETH NEY IN EUROPE AND IN TEXAS - Ms. Marjorie von Rosenberg
 3:30 p.m. GENEALOGICAL RESOURCES IN GERMANY
 Mrs. Theresa Gold and Robert Robinson-Zwahr
 (3:30 p.m. OPTIONAL TOUR OF INDUSTRY, TEXAS (self driving -with published map and guide)
 HISTORICAL STRUCTURES AND SITES OPEN WITH DOCENTS)
 6:30 p.m. WELCOME HALL, INDUSTRY, TEXAS
 SOCIAL HOUR (cash bar)
 7:00 p.m. BARBECUE DINNER
 PROGRAM - SNOWWHITE presented by/Mrs. Leola Tiedt
 MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT - Community Band

Sunday, September 9

- BREAKFAST (on own)
 9:00 a.m. GERMAN CHURCH SERVICE - Rev. Robert J. Koenig
 9:30 a.m. POETRY READING - Dr. Lisa Kahn
 10:00 a.m. COFFEE BREAK
 10:30 a.m. THE GERMAN VOLKSFEST IN BRENHAM - W. M. Von-Maszewski
 11:00 a.m. BUSINESS MEETING
 ELECTION



(ISB: #28)

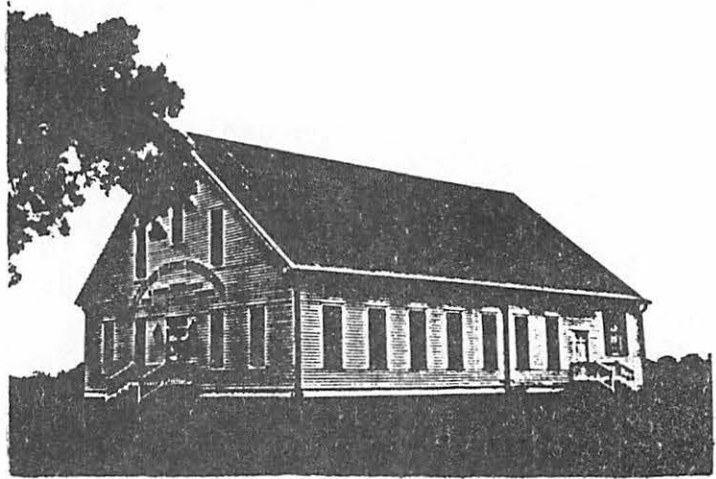
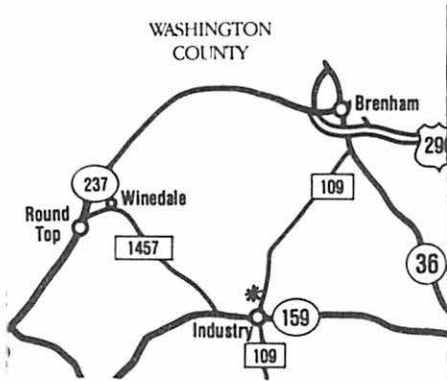
GTHS ANNUAL MEETING BANQUET

The Annual Meeting Banquet will be held at Industry's

WELCOME HALL

This building was constructed in 1899 by the Welcome Maennerchor. The building has been restored and rejuvenated. The facility is experiencing a resurgence of popularity, being used for a variety of social functions. The hall was also featured on national TV when scenes of a CBS made for TV movie was filmed in Industry in 1988.

* Note: Please wear appropriate cool clothing. The structure has been *
* modernized with ceiling fans, but is not air conditioned. *

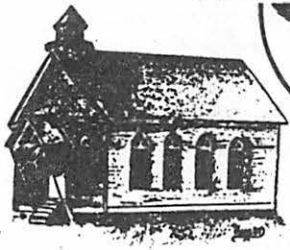


* WELCOME HALL



POST OFFICE
1838

INDUSTRY-WEST END
HISTORICAL SOCIETY



METHODIST CHURCH
1867



RAEKE HOUSE
ca. 1850

OPTIONAL TOWN TOUR

Industry, Texas

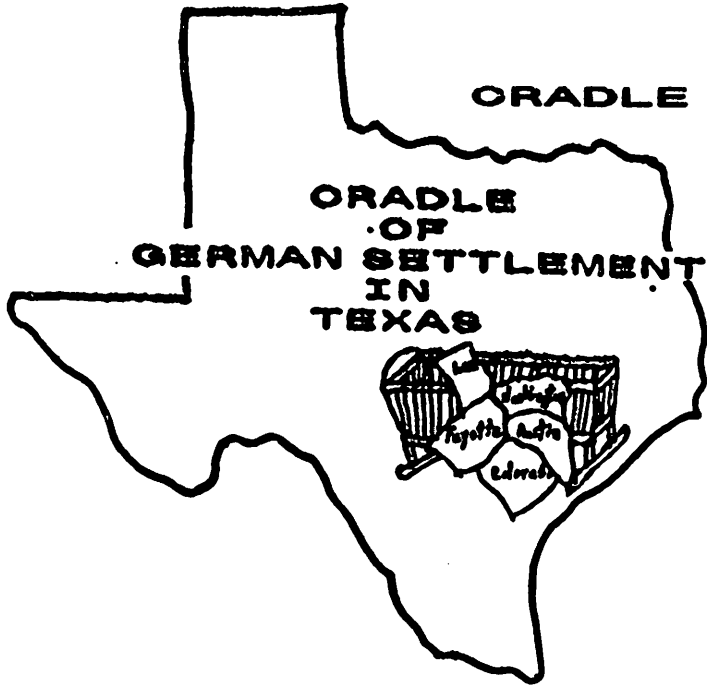
The cradle of the German settlements in Texas was founded by Fredrich Ernst on a league of land granted to him in Austin's Colony in 1831.

Ernst is recognized as

"Father of German Immigration"
to TEXAS

(ISB: #29)

ORADLE OF GERMAN SETTLEMENT IN TEXAS



Host city:
BRENHAM, TEXAS

September 7, 8, 9, 1990

Featuring towns and communities in:

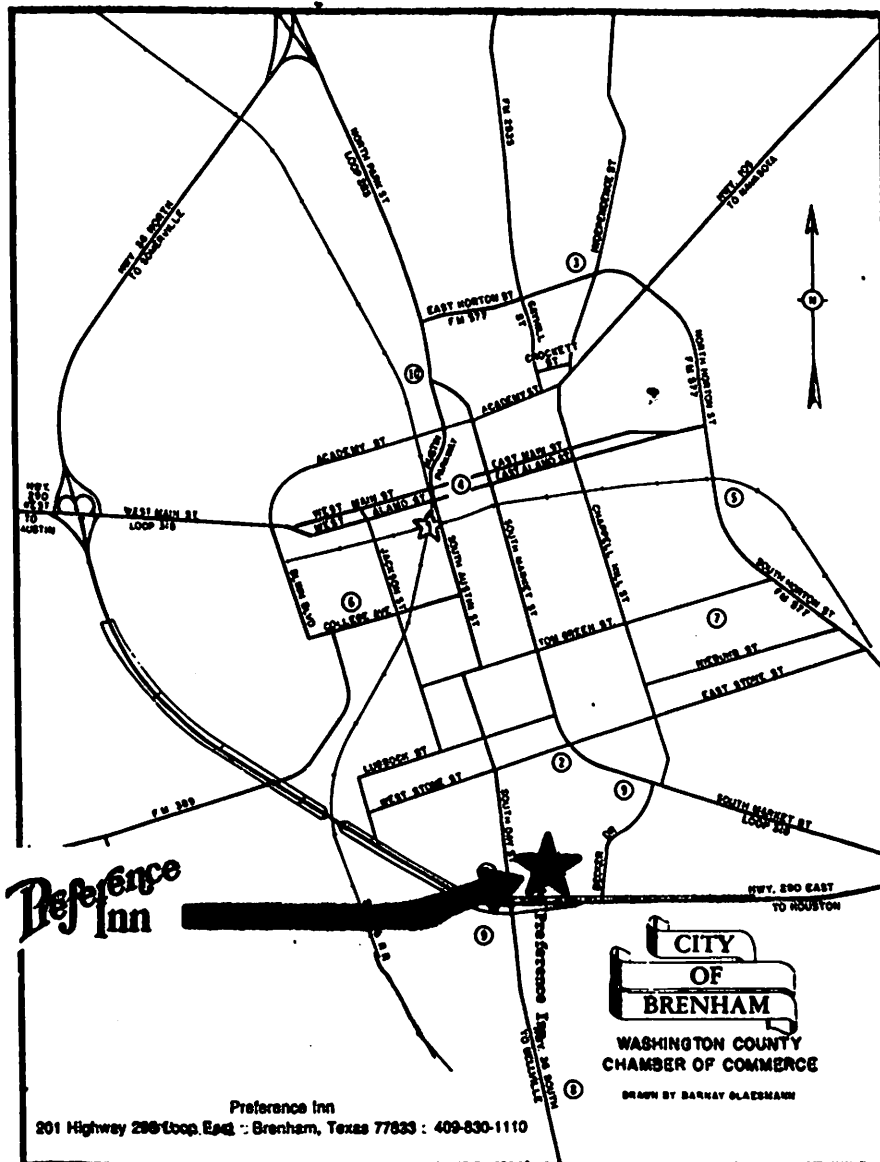
AUSTIN COUNTY

COLORADO COUNTY

FAYETTE COUNTY

LEE COUNTY

WASHINGTON COUNTY



Handbook and Registry of German-Texan Heritage, Volume II

Our publication, The Handbook and Registry of German-Texan Heritage, released recently, continues to receive favorable reviews. All who contributed to the volume, in whatever fashion, can be proud of their efforts. This does not mean, however, that we should sit on our laurels! What we gathered and published on the German-Texan heritage is just the "tip of the iceberg." Much more material is out there, waiting to be recorded before it is forgotten and lost forever. The consensus by your Board and the general membership is to continue and expand this project with Volume II.

The format for the next volume will follow that of our original Handbook. The categories remain the same but the criteria are modified (see accompanying page). Material of the mid-1920's will be included as well as material with a history of less than one hundred years providing the subject or event had a proven impact on the community, its culture or heritage.

For example, the years of the mid-1920's denote a low point in the history of German-Texan culture and the German-American culture in general. This is the period of anti-German feelings which gained its momentum during World War I and carried over to the post-War years. During this time many institutions disappeared, never to revive - German newspapers, social organizations, schools, the use of the German language in public places. In many cases, the post-World War I years saw the topic of German culture forbidden for discussion at home and much German heritage expunged from memory.

As with our first volume, haste is the order of the day, to capture the fading recollections.

Please forward any and all information and material to:

**W.M. Von-Maszewski
2222 Cherry Lane
Pasadena, Texas 77502-4043**

Handbook and Registry of *German-Texan Heritage, Volume II*

Categories:

- I. Old Businesses ----- Stores, banks, newspapers, mills, etc., founded before 1925 by German-Texans. Need not be under the original owner throughout its history.
- II. *Vereine* ----- Organizations founded before 1920, defunct or still active today, including agricultural, musical, literary, shooting clubs, etc., and/or their buildings.
- III. Churches & Synagogues ----- Congregations founded and/or buildings erected before 1925 by German-speaking people.
- IV. Cemeteries ----- Public, private and church cemeteries which primarily contain graves of German-Texans.
- V. Schools ----- Public, private and parochial schools founded before 1925 and/or their buildings.
- VI. Farms & Ranches ----- Homesteads of considerable size and/or significance developed before 1925 and still intact. Ownership need not be the original family.
- VII. *Fachwerk* Construction ----- Buildings using *fachwerk* (half-timbered) construction in all or part of the structure.
- VIII. Museums, Historical Societies,
Libraries ----- Institutions devoted to the preservation of German-Texan history, culture, or the work of a German-Texan, or housed in a historic building of German-Texan significance.
- IX. Historical Markers,
Monuments and Statues ----- State of Texas historical markers, local plaques, monuments, statues, and National Register of Historic places and plaques pertaining to German-Texan heritage or history.

EVENTS - PLACES

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUGUST 1990

- 2-5 SCHULENBURG FESTIVAL in Wolters Park. 409/743-3023
- 2-5 SAN ANTONIO: Texas Folklife Festival. Celebration of Texas' ethnic diversity and pioneer heritage. Hemisfair Plaza grounds at Institute of Texan Cultures. Hands-on-pioneer craft & skill demonstrations. 512/226-7651
- In progress till Sept. 3 DALLAS: Exhibit at State Fair Grounds. 1820 - Present in Texas. Examining Influences of German Technology on that time. Science Place 1 Museum, 1318 2nd Ave., 214/428-7200
- 1990-1991 "August-to-April" Concerts. The Round Top Festival. Reservations may be made by calling 409/249-3129 or writing: Festival-Institute, P. O. Box 89, Round Top, TX 78954
- 4-5 BRYAN: Heat-of-the-Summer Tours at Messina Hof Wine Cellars (They are featured in the July issue of TEXAS HIGHWAYS. "Hof" is the city of Hof an der Saale in Bavaria, Germany.) Reservations required: 409/778-9463
- 26 CASTROVILLE: St. Louis Day Celebration. Alsatian-style food, dance and fun. 512/538-3142 (see #1, 1990, for different date)
- 31 BOERNE: KENDAL COUNTY FAIR. Ed Kadlecek & The Village Band from New Braunfels will be playing there. They are also participating at the Texas Folklife Festival earlier this month.

SEPTEMBER

- 2 GRAPETOWN: Das ist Alles. End of summer music festival. 512/997-3695
- 22 HOUSTON: Polish Genealogical Society of Texas presents a Seminar: "A Case Study in European Genealogical Field Work" and "A Case Study in Comparative Folk Culture" featuring T. Lindsay Baker. At the Polish Catholic Pastoral Mission of Our Lady of Czestochowa, 1716 Oak Tree, Houston, TX 77080. (Send \$15.00 registration fee to PGSoT, 1130 West 30th, Houston, TX 77018)

OCTOBER

- 4-6 AUSTIN: "Women & Texas History". A Conference. 512/471-1525
- 4 COPPERAS COVE: Octoberfest with Ed Kadlecek & The Village Band
- 5-7 FREDERICKSBURG: Octoberfest. German food, drink, music, dancing, and "Gemütlichkeit." 512/997-6523
- 6-7 WASHINGTON-ON-THE-BRAZOS: Octoberfest. Traditional German music and food, antiques, collectibles, games and contests are the center of the celebration. 409/836-3695
- 21 ANHALT: Festival. (See p. 117)
- 20 OLDENBURG: Historical marker dedication for Oldenburg, Texas. (See p. 35, Vol. XII, #1.)

NOVEMBER

- 2-11 NEW BRAUNFELS: Wurstfest. Features the best of the wurst! The season for butchering and sausage-making celebrated in a German-style festival atmosphere in Landa Park. Family entertainment with polka music, German food in great quantities, marktplatz, biergarten and Wursthalle. Plenty of lively German singing, music and dancing. 512/625-9167 or 625-2385
- 4 COST: 24th Annual German Songfest, Monthalia United Methodist Church near Cost, TX. (See p. 128) Time: 2:30 P.M.
- 25-26 COMFORT: Christmas in Comfort. 512/995-3634
- 30 BOERNE: Weihnachts Fest in Boerne. 512/249-9373
- 30 GRUENE: Turn-of-the Century Ball & Wine Tasting. 512/629-5077

DECEMBER

- 1 CASTROVILLE: Old-Fashioned Christmas. 512/538-3142
- 1-2 BOERNE: Oma's Christmas Fair. Kendall Co. Fairgrounds, HWY 46. Crafts, food, German choir, Santa Claus. 512/537-4512
- 7-9 FREDERICKSBURG: Kristkindl Markt (A German Christmas Market). Fredericksburg Shopkeepers Guild, P. O. Box 585, Fredericksburg, TX 78624. 512/997-7071 or 997-2734

Things rarely change 113 at Freiheit Country Store

NEW BRAUNFELS — Just outside the city limits and nestled between several landmarks to local progress, the Freiheit Country Store hangs on to its unassuming place in history.

The store, which dates back to 1889, was once the focal point of a rural community — serving as a store, post office, dance hall and saloon in its heyday.

Today, it sits quietly in the shadow of two modern school campuses and a giant chain store's distribution center. The unsuspecting might pass right by on Farm Road 1101. But the initiated come in once and keep on coming back for a cold drink, a bite to eat, a game of cards or a chat with the friendly folks inside.

Gartenkonzerts series to open

The 28th annual Gartenkonzerts series at Beethoven Home and Garten, 422 Pereira St. (at S. Alamo), kicks off June 15 and continues the third Friday of each month through Sept. 21.

Promised for the palate: plenty of bratwurst, beer (12 different kinds), wine and soft drinks.

Gates open at 5 p.m. Admission is \$3 for adults; free for children under 12. For more information, call 222-1521.

San Antonio

June 7, 1990—Recorder-Times
(ISB: #9)

EXPRESS-NEWS, San Antonio, March 4, 1990

Freiheit is the German word for freedom. Shorty and Rosie Haas, proprietors of the store since 1982, say that is just what they have found there.

"It's hard work but it's really fun. I don't know if we'll ever retire. This might be as close to it as we ever get," said Rosie, who spends most of her time in the store's kitchen while Shorty tends bar and makes change.

Little change

Rosie and Shorty are among the store's few new additions. Little of the interior has been changed since the days when Kermit and LaVerne Kraft sold gasoline and groceries there.

"We wanted to paint the place and our customers had a fit. They said 'Don't change a thing.' When we first bought the store there were old Christmas ornaments hanging everywhere. I took them down and got lots of chewing out for it," Rosie said.

"My daughter just has a fit sometimes. She says 'Mama, we've got to clean this place up.' I tell her we can't. We'd never hear the end of it."

An old display case in one cor-

(ISB: #11)

ner of the dining area is crammed with collectibles ranging from the curious to the bizarre. Between old sewing patterns, Coca-Cola bottles and unopened cans of JR beer sits a box of Grover's Chill Tonic and a silver statuette of Buddha.

The walls are adorned with farm implements in some places and deer antlers in others. A glass-encased meat counter sits directly behind the dining room's wood-burning stove, which has a history all its own.

"Friends of Shorty's moved into town and had to give it up. They wanted to put it someplace where they could come and see it, so they gave it to us," Rosie said.

A smaller stove in the front room came by way of a trade. "A lady down the road gave us that one in exchange for borrowing our sheep when her grass was getting long," Rosie explained.

"A few months ago there wasn't two chairs alike in this place. I bought a lot more chairs and got in trouble for that. The customers notice everything you do," she said.

"This is the kind of place you just come to as you are. It feels like home," said Evelyn Schievelbein, who regularly comes out on Friday nights with her husband, Milton.

"Farmers, lawyers, doctors, dentists... we get 'em all," said Rosie.

The store's lunch and dinner

menu consists of a photocopied list of kitchen offerings laminated inside a file folder. The fare is simple — burgers, frito pie and chili and beans. Melvin's Special, named for frequent customer Melvin Tausch, is a meat pattie on toast served with the lettuce and tomatoes on the side.

Saturday night crowd

Saturday night is a big night for shuffleboard. On Tuesday nights, a crowd gathers at the store for the weekly skat tournament. Skat is card game passed down the through generations by German settlers of the area.

On one warm and muggy Friday night, Charles Wagenfuehr came to the store hoping to rustle up a few hands of skat.

"You never really stop learning how to play the game. But once you learn the fundamentals you'll play it every chance you get," he said.

Rosie, who swears she would never again own a beer joint or a pool table, encourages families to bring along the kids. Her own grandchildren are frequent lunchtime regulars.

"I think this place is the best thing that ever happened to us," Rosie said.

Store hours are 10 a.m. to midnight Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 1 a.m. Saturdays. The kitchen is open 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

Except for Sundays, Freiheit Store is closed only four other days of the year — July 4, Labor Day, Christmas day and New Year's day.

"Last year we closed for four days for the first time since we bought the store so we could go fishing," Rosie said.

"Some of our customers weren't real excited about it," she added with a laugh.

— TINA BARNEBURG

Top German entertainers to put pep in Boerne's Berges Fest (ISB: #9)

By **RALPH WININGHAM**
Express-News Staff Writer

Activities from pig and canoe races to some of the best German musical entertainers in the Hill Country will highlight the 24th annual Berges Fest Friday through Sunday in Boerne.

Featuring enough fun and festivities to fill Father's Day weekend, the event is Boerne's biggest downtown event of the year.

The free festival is sponsored by the Boerne Chamber of Commerce, the San Antonio Express-News and Y100 FM, and is billed as a throwback to fairs on the town plaza with activities for the entire family.

San Antonio EXPRESS-NEWS — June 15, 1990

This will be the second year since the festival was moved back to Main Plaza from the Kendall County Fairgrounds.

"The fair started as a celebration of the quality of life in the Hill Country and moving it back to downtown restores that feeling," said Paul Kirtley of the Boerne chamber.

Although there will be horse racing at the fairgrounds throughout the weekend, most of the other events will be held on or near Main Plaza.

Starting off the events will be the queen's competition and the Berges Fest pageant from 6:30-9 p.m. Friday, followed by a street

dance from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Saturday with music by Gary Bonnett.

While a bike rally at 8:30 a.m. Saturday is the first scheduled event, a parade at 10 a.m. Saturday along Main Street to Main Plaza will be the official start of a full day of entertainment.

Canoe races along the Cibolo Creek will follow the parade, with nearly two dozen entries expected to participate in the event on the recently renovated park area along Texas 46.

Kirtley said perch have been stocked in the creek to allow youngsters the chance to fish during the three-day festival.

Concerning the popular pig races, he said the contests will be

held each day on the grounds of the Kendall Inn, although no parimutuel betting will be allowed.

"We are still working on that," he joked, adding the races will be conducted at various times Friday through Sunday.

Among the entertainers scheduled to perform Saturday will be the Boerne Village Band, the Seven Dutchmen and Bubba Bartosh and Westbound, who will provide music for the street dance from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Sunday.

Entertainment will continue Sunday from noon to midnight, with Cloverleaf and the New Braunfels Village Brass Band among the featured performers. A street dance from 8 p.m. to midnight will be held, with music by Jerry Riedel and the Sidewinders.

BRENHAM CELEBRATES

100th Maifest

(ISB : # 1 2)

History of the Maipole

Maifest marks the revival of life in early spring after winter. In medieval times, Maifest became the favorite holiday. People would gather spring flowers to decorate their homes and churches. They chose a King and Queen of May and villagers danced around the Mai-pole.

In Germany, boys planted secretly, Mai trees in front of the window of their sweethearts.

The first Mai-Fest was held in Brenham in 1881 and with exception of World War I and World War II it was celebrated each year, to mark this year 100th such celebration.

The Mai-Pole was erected in 1986, based on the design of a Maipole that dates back to 1762 A.D., the replica of which is now standing in Bavaria, West Germany. Brenham's Mai-Pole depicts the figures found in the Maifest logo of Brenham and was donated by the Axel F. Baehren Family of Brenham, Texas.

MAIFEST BANNER DESIGN

In 1989, a banner design contest was held in conjunction with the 99th Maifest to complete the Mai-Pole. Lori Hasskarl of Brenham designed the winning entry which was selected to be the official banner of the 100th Maifest. The colors used in the banners are a combination of the official green and yellow of the Maifest with purple and gold highlights representing the colors of royalty. The leaf motif was used to represent the Germanic influence in the Maifest heritage.



Pictured is Lori Hasskarl assisting in the hanging of the Maifest banners.

Maypole history

Brenham's located at Fireman's Park

Maypole, maipole or maibaum; they're all slightly different names for the same object.

But there's not too many maypoles in the United States. Brenham's version, which stands in Fireman's Park, is one of only six believed to exist in this country.

Two years ago, Clarence Spies, a member of the Wie Geht's Club here, received a letter from the G.A.F. Society of Toledo, Ohio, inquiring about Brenham's maypole.

The G.A.F. Society, made up of six German and one Swiss club in the Toledo area, erected its 63-foot-tall maypole in June 1988. Members of the club were seeking information about other maypoles in the nation.

Brenham's maypole was erected in 1986. The green and white maypole is 57 feet tall and has three pairs of tiers of wrought iron Maifest figurines.

According to the G.A.F. Society, only five other maypoles (or maibaums, as the G.A.F. prefers to call them) exist in the United States. The G.A.F.'s 63-foot-tall, one-ton maibaum stands in Toledo. Another belongs to a German society in Milwaukee, Wis., and is placed in front of the Bavarian Inn. A third maibaum is in Frankenmuth, Mich. and is a tourist attraction.

At the time of the letter, the G.A.F. Society was looking into reports of a maibaum in Florida and another in a small town in Indiana.

G.A.F. also sent Spies two issues of its quarterly newsletter that recounted the history of the maibaum in Europe and the United States.

According to the article, May Day (May 1) has been celebrated as far back as the 13th Century. The festivities, once heavily influenced by religion, mark the end of winter, the love of trees, courtship rites and optimism on the future.

May Day observances included singing and dancing around the maibaum, horse races and pranks by the neighboring villages. In the 1200s, craftsmen used sticks decorated with greenery in their May Day parade. The celebration allowed the working class to realize they didn't need royalty to tell them when and what to celebrate.

However, that independent spirit apparently fell into disfavor when Ludwig der Heilige of France banned the custom in Bavaria in 1257. Shortly thereafter, Bavarian prince Karl Theodor declared that erecting a maibaum was a punishable offense, because it was a waste of wood. The custom was allowed again some time later as a way to give the people a sense of unity.

The maibaum historically was erected only temporarily during the May Day festivities and served as an ornament, decorated with a wreath and bright ribbons. In Germany today, this maibaum is erected on May 1 and is put together only with manual labor; also, women aren't allowed to help. The maibaum remains standing anywhere from one month to five years, depending on the town's custom.

During the week or two before it is erected, neighboring townspeople scheme to "steal" the maypole and hold it for ransom. Maibaums in Bavaria average 100 feet in height and may be hidden in a silo, under the hay in a barn or secured with chains and alarms. Sometimes guards and guard dogs are even used. The hiding place is kept secret as long as possible.

In one town a few years ago, the guards left their post to watch an episode of "Dallas." When they returned, the maibaum was stolen by neighboring townspeople.

The ransom payment for a maibaum usually is a fair amount of beer — usually a barrel. One town willingly paid 80 bottles of beer, but when the victors started drinking, they discovered the bottles were refilled with water.

Not every town will pay the ransom. One town decided not to pay but was returned its maibaum anyway — as a sackful of sawdust.

Most maibaums are found in Bavaria, although they can be found in areas of Germany, Austria and Switzerland. The permanently erected ones in Bavaria are usually found in the town square and are viewed as "social roadmaps" because the various tiers of painted figures on the poles signify the city's religious affiliations, social clubs, main industries, city crest and other activities.

Maifest Tradition

From the historical German Volkfest, held in Brenham from 1874 to 1880, has evolved one of the most colorful, widely attended spring festivals in Texas, the Brenham Maifest.

After the 1880 festival, the Brenham Volunteer Fire Department assumed responsibility for the Volkfest Association, and in 1881 sponsored the first Maifest. Miss Frankie Foote was crowned Queen of May by Robert S. Tarver in an outdoor ceremony held at the Fair Grounds.

In 1884 the grounds were purchased by the Fire Department, and renamed Fireman's Park, a name that continues although the park became city property, March 14, 1917.

For the oft-heard question, "What is the connection between the Fire Department, of necessity an organization of serious importance, with that of Maifest pageantry?", the answer is, "History."

During Reconstruction Days following the Civil War, Brenham was continuously occupied by Federal Troops, encamped in the eastern part of town until March 30, 1870. Thus, the name Camp town was created for that area.

On September 7, 1866, after an encounter between citizens and several Union soldiers, a fire was started. A troop stood guard around the area to insure complete success of the fire while three buildings and five stores were destroyed.

Again, in October 1866, an entire block of business houses, including the Southern Banner, was burned on the west side of the Square. The troops were incensed over newspaper criticism of their activities, and those of the Freedman's Bureau.

Immediately an organization known as "The White Camellias" was formed by leading citizens of the town to protect lives and property. But martial law forbade all group meetings, and forced a disbanding.

As a result, 20 men organized the Hook and Ladder Co., on May 28, 1867, with Col D. C. Giddings as foreman, J. R. Thomson and R. D. Harris, assistant foremen, W. H. Terrill treasurer, and John A. Shepard, secretary. Fire-fighters, yes, but in reality a military organization by which some semblance of local government could be conducted. Whenever trouble seemed brewing, Saint Peter's Episcopal Church bell was slowly rung, to alert members of the "fire department."

Within days after organization of the Hook and Ladder Co., another company was started, and special bright uniforms adopted to add authenticity to the second fire department.

The fire companies always discharged every duty carefully and well, becoming the most important organization in the city, in business, civic and social life.

Having started the Maifest in 1881, only during three years of World War I, and the six years of World War II was the annual festival suspended. Each year out-of-town relatives and friends have returned for the celebration in ever increasing numbers. As the century mark approaches there has developed a line of royal descent from monarchs of previous Maifests, perpetuated with pride in a large number of families.

Every Valentine's Day the traditional parade was led by the Fire Department members on a sparkling red fire truck, followed by a band, to the home of the newly appointed Queens of the approaching Maifest, for a serenade and the presentation of the Queen and her chosen King, to the public.

In early years the coronation of monarchs was held in the morning at Fireman's Park, immediately following the parade. Spectators sat in the shade of a grove of trees and watched the ceremony presented on the large stage, of the elaborate band shell, or Opera House.

During the afternoon, while adults attended the baseball game, the children's dance was held in the pavilion, which the Fire Department had erected in 1884, at the cost of \$3,725. The building, 100 feet in diameter, originally held a double deck bandstand, the orchestra occupied the upper level. It stood in the center of the huge ball-room floor, making all dance areas equal.

At night, the Grand Maifest Ball was given. Beautiful, booklet dance programs were distributed, with tiny pencil attached, which were eagerly sought in the evening by the men, to the excitement and pleasure of the ladies. With program in hand, escorts made sure they had the Grand March and first dance, the dance before intermission, and "Home Sweet Home" dance, plus as many others as he was permitted.

After WWI, the Maifest coronations were changed in 1921 from the outdoor theatre or opera house (no longer in existence) to be held within the pavilion, where a stage was erected on the west wall. Participants came in on a runway, from a building extension which no longer exists.

Beginning in 1926, with the addition of a Junior Court of Royalty, the Maifest activities have been celebrated for two consecutive days. Both Junior and Senior coronations are now held at night, the Juniors having the parade and program the first day, Seniors the second.

Professionally decorated parade floats of today, pulled by tractors, have replaced the earlier horse drawn, decorated carts and carriages, then the beloved decorated roadsters, and last, the family car.

The parade of Maifest court participants has been made more safe. Danger of run-away horses unaccustomed to bands, has been eliminated as have occasional cases of monoxide poison created by over enthusiasm of home decorators, forgetful of motor ventilation.

With motors no longer running hot, the Duke of Texas and other visiting royalty are spared the possible embarrassment of having to roll out of the line of the parade, park the car, and escort his Duchess on foot the final two blocks before reaching the Fireman's Park.

Yet many recall with nostalgia the fun of weeks and weeks of extra dating hours, while flower decorations were created by the hundreds, and each car frame built, attached and decorated in 'someone's back yard.' Since most were one-car families in earlier years, parents have a tendency to remember only the weeks of walking.

With the present Maifest celebration one sees the tremendous growth in number of participants, and spectators over the 75 year period. Even more amazing are the continued spectacular pageants that remain ever new and delightfully individual, in exquisite beauty of costume and stage setting.

Because of its growing duties in the field of fire fighting, the Brenham Fire Department did not renew the traditional Maifest at the end of World War II. Full credit for bringing the beautiful tradition into being again goes to Leon Simank, who started work in 1947 to raise funds for a Municipal Swimming Pool, all on his own efforts. Friends joined him in putting on a public party that netted almost \$8,000 for the swimming pool.

In 1948 Simank, heading the Municipal Swimming Pool Association, started the Brenham Maifest again, and the total sum raised for the pool reached \$20,000.

The association continued to sponsor the Brenham Maifest until 1951, with Reese B. Lockett serving as general chairman. In that year the Brenham Maifest Association was organized, Gus Grabow was elected president, and it was declared that any profit that was realized would go to youth activities in Washington County.

These Fire Department Chiefs served as Chairmen of the Maifest:

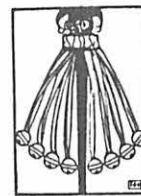
1881	W. Thompson	1899	J. H. Simon
1882	R. A. Harvin	1900	T. A. Low, Jr.
1883	T. A. Low, Sr.	1901	W. Thompson
1884	J. L. Moore	1902	George Tucker
1885	L. J. Lockett	1903	C. H. Carlisle
1886	William Boyle	1904-1908	Tom Matchett
1887	Not Available	1909	Ed Schmid
1888	W. A. Wood	1910	Sam Low
1889	Julius Kollmey	1911-1912	Tom Matchett
1890	Not Available	1913	Henry Mueller
1891	J. G. Rankin	1914	Frank Wood, Jr.
1892	Not Available	1915-1917	E. P. Davis
1893	Not Available	1918-1920	(No Maifest) World War I
1894	William Lusk	1921-1925	E. P. Davis
1895	A. M. Krug	1926-1936	Ernest Hermann
1896	F. W. Wood	1937-1941	E. W. (Flukie) Pflughaupt
1897	O. A. Seward	1942-1947	(No Maifest) World War II
1898	E. H. Eversberg		

The revival of the Brenham Maifest in 1948 came about under these leaders:

1948	Leon Simank, President of Municipal Swimming Pool Association
1949	Reese B. Lockett, General Chairman; Leon Simank, President of Municipal Swimming Pool Association
1950	Reese B. Lockett, General Chairman; Leon Simank, President of Municipal Swimming Pool Association

The Brenham Maifest Association was organized on February 27, 1951, with the following persons serving as Presidents:

1951	Gus Grabow	1966-1968	Milton Routt
1952	George A. Cushman	1969-1979	Dr. Delbert H. Stark
1953	Resse Lockett	1980-1982	John W. Barnhill, Jr.
1954-1955	B. P. Greenwade	1983-1985	Ben E. Boettcher
1956-1959	J. W. Barnhill	1986-1988	H. E. Pflughaupt
1960	Milton Routt	1989-	Gregg Appel
1961-1965	J. W. Barnhill		



(ISB: #12)

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS PLANNED

Texas Lutheran College Associate Director of College Relations, Stephen Anderson, has announced some of the plans for Texas Lutheran's upcoming Centennial celebration. A planning committee has been at work for over a year putting together a calendar of events to take place over a period from fall 1990 through the actual 100th Anniversary of the school's founding on September 2, 1991.

The first event of the year long celebration will be held on October 14, 1990, at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Phillipsburg, Texas. It is appropriate that the "birthday party" begin at the Phillipsburg centennial celebration since this was the site of a meeting which led to the founding of the college in Brenham the following year. Because Texas Lutheran College moved to Seguin, Texas in 1912, celebrations will be held at both towns to mark the historic founding event. Anderson stated because TLC alumni are spread over a wide area it is possible that a number of "satellite" parties will be scheduled throughout Texas during the celebration year.

Additional celebration events will be announced as plans become final. If you would like more details please contact Steve Anderson at:



**TEXAS
LUTHERAN
COLLEGE**

1000 West Court Street
Seguin, Texas 78155
(512) 379-4161

(ISB: #29)

Dr. Pamela Saur, Assistant Professor at Lamar University, has informed GTHS she has recently become one of the Editors of Schatzkammer, a journal for American instructors and professors of German at all levels, founded in 1975.

Dr. Saur states "although this journal has been published at the University of South Dakota for a number of years, it was founded in Arlington, Texas. At a March meeting, several of the editors decided that the fifteenth anniversary of the journal should be commemorated in 1990, and devoting a special issue or section to celebrating the Texas origins of the journal would be appropriate." An attempt to get out the word to active German teachers in Texas to contribute articles, teaching tips, editorials, etc. to a section of "Texas Voices" is being made. Please forward your ideas to Dr. Saur at:



LAMAR UNIVERSITY

The State-Supported University in Southeast Texas

Chief Editor, SCHATZKAMMER

Department of English & Foreign Languages

P. O. Box 10023 Beaumont, Texas 77710 409 880-8574

Industry, Texas, "The Oldest Permanent German Settlement in Texas" will celebrate its 160th Anniversary in April 1991. The Industry-West End Historical Society will sponsor a gala celebration. For details contact:



**INDUSTRY-WEST END
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

(409) 357-2772

P.O. Box 218
Industry, Texas 78944

HISTORY OF ANHALT OCTOBERFEST

In 1874, the ranchers of the Bulverde, Texas, area organized a club, called the Germania Farmer Verein (German Farmer Association) the purpose of the organization was to protect against cattle rustlers. Social activities for club members grew out of the association. The club held two social events each year. The first called the May Fest, came after the planting season, and the second called the Harvest or October Fest, came after the harvest season. A dance and supper were activities held at the club's hall during the two festivals.

Today this organization is an insurance and social club. German is still spoken at monthly meetings and even the the music has changed little over the years. The Association is still very active and the two yearly festivals are social events that draw upwards of 8,000 people to the club. People come to the fests from as far away as Austin (75 mi.) to enjoy the festivities held on the third Sunday in May and also the third Sunday in October. (The meal now takes place at 12 noon)

In 1895 this poem by Fritz Goldbeck was written about the October Fest:

Zum Erntefest, 1895.

War auch der Hoffnungstern verhüllt,
Durch Wolken ohne Regen,
Sind doch die Scheunen jetzt gefüllt
Mit reichem Erntesegen.

Dank sei der gütigen Natur
Für das, was sie gegeben,
Gespendet uns in Feld und Flur,
Den Brotbedarf zum Leben.

Die Baumwollstaube ließ zur Zeit
Den Landmann fast verzagen,
Doch hat sie, trotz der Trockenheit,
Noch ziemlich gut getragen.

Weiß schimmerte die Woll' im Feld,
Raßlos war man am Pflücken;
Die Ballen wandern in die Welt,
Ruh hat des Pflückers Rücken.

Frisch geht es nun zum Erntefest,
Das wird mal ein Vergnügen,
Wer heut die Sorgen sorgen läßt,
Den wird man d'rum nicht rügen.

Gewunden ist der Erntekranz,
Beschmückt mit buntem Bunde,
So wie es Sitte bei dem Tanz
Im alten Vaterlande.

Heut wird (wie dort) sich Weib und Mann
Klink dreh'n im lust'gen Reigen,
Und jeder zeigen, was er kann,
Beim hellen Klang der Weigen.

Und Bachus, heiterer Gesell,
Sitzt da auf vollem Fäßchen,
Erbendet jedem Becher schnell
Ein schaumgetränktes Gläschen.

Der Jüngling schaut in's Aug' der Maid,
Drückt ihre Hand' im Reigen,
Dem Mädchen thut es gar nicht leid,
Die Hochzeit wird es zeigen.

Frisch fröhlich sind da Jung und Alt,
Man hört sie lachen, scherzen,
Durch Gerstenastes Allgewalt
Bricht Frohsinn aus den Herzen.

Und nach dem Fest, beim Tageslicht,
Da scheiden fröhlich Alle;
Vergessen werden sie wohl nicht
Das Fest zur Farmerhalle.

"The Harvest Festival, 1895"

(translation by D.E. Bremer)

The evening star was hidden
by clouds without rain.
All the barns are filled
with rich stores of grain.

Thank good Mother Nature
for that which she has given.
Gave us in the fields
the necessities of life.

Then the chances of the cotton crop
looked doubtful to the farmer,
Though despite the drought
still made quite well.

The wool shone white in the field;
eagerly were we picking.
The bales wander over the world;
rest has the picker's back.

Joyfully we go to the Harvest Festival;
this will be grand amusement.
He who forgets his grief today
shall not be scorned tomorrow..

Decorated is the harvest wreath
bound with colored ribbon,
As is the custom at a dance
in the old Fatherland.

Today, as over there, man and wife
twirl in gay abandon,
And each shows his talent
by music of the violins.

The old bartender is sitting
upon the keg of beer,
Quickly filling up
the many foam-topped glasses.

The youth locks in his maiden's eye,
impetuously presses her hand.
The girl does not scorn him
as this, the wedding shall show.

Fresh and gay are young and old;
one hears them cheering, laughing.
Tremendous jubilation breaks
from each and every heart.

After the Fest, the morning light
shows happy, joyous parting.
None will ever forget
the Fest at the Farmer Hall.



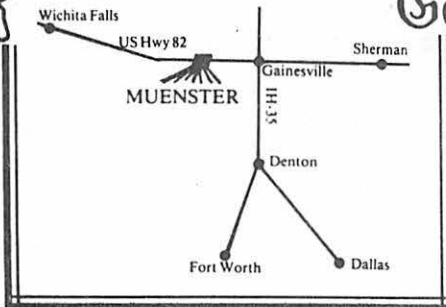
(ISB: #13)

Muenster

Founded in 1889 by German Catholic pioneers, Muenster's traditional German customs and Texas hospitality "willkommen" you to experience the tantalizing array of sausages, cheeses, strudels and other tasty fare offered daily. Locally processed meats prepared by an apprentice trained by a Master Sausage Maker from Germany gives an authentic flavor to this specialty. Meats processed in Muenster are distributed locally and statewide to restaurants and individuals.



Located 1 1/2 hours from DFW Metroplex. 13 miles west of I-35 on U.S. Hwy. 82.



Gemutlichkeit

(Ge'mut-lik-kit)

Good Health,
Good Food,
Good Friends

Willkommen ...

(ISB: #2)

Touring historic houses gives you some idea of home life in a community of long ago. But that's only one side of the story. At the Tomball Community Museum Center near Houston, you see another side. Clustered in a plaza, along with the historic Griffin Memorial House, are an old doctor's office, church, and barn.

The Spring Creek County Historical Association moved the buildings into Tomball from other parts of the county throughout the 1960's and early 70's. During museum tours, guides describe the area's history. When German immigrants arrived by boat in Galveston in the 1800's, many moved up to Harris County (which includes Houston) and became cotton farmers. Reminders of this era are housed in the museum's Farm Museum, which displays plows, cultivators, and hay rakes. Alongside the museum is a two-story, 100-year-old, mule-powered cotton gin.

Eugene Pillot, son of area planter Claude N. Pillot, was one of the first builders in Harris County. When he built his impressive house in the late 1850's, no details were overlooked, from keyhole covers to porcelain door-knobs. Today, the renamed Griffin Memorial House contains an eclectic display of antiques, including a lady's spittoon and a black fan a local woman carried to Lincoln's inaugural ball.

The German Seed Of Early Texas



Tomball Community Museum Center in Texas.

The museum is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Thursday, 2 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, and by appointment. It is located in Tomball, about 45 miles north of Houston, on the north end of North Pine Street. For more information, write to the Tomball Community Museum Center, Box 457, Tomball, Texas 77375; or call (713) 255-2148 or (713) 444-2449.

Upstairs, one expansive room runs the width of the house. This was not only the boy's dormitory but also a community gathering place. Here, teachers gave lessons, people met for dances, and women congregated for quilting bees. And because Pillot was a French Catholic in a mainly German Lutheran town, he also held Catholic church services in this room.

Many of the Germans attended Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, which now stands beside the house. The congregation formed in the 1870's, and the church was built in 1901. Inside, Gothic frosted-glass windows illuminated the wooden benches and altar that immigrants made by hand. The farmers saved money this way and also by paying the early pastor "\$150 a year plus vegetables."

The local doctor didn't earn much more. An account book in Dr. William Ehrhardt's office shows fees of 25 cents and \$1.50 per visit and \$3 on rare occasions. Ehrhardt practiced here for 60 years, and much of his equipment and office decor, as well as a set of dominoes, is still in the tiny office. "He played these with friends while waiting for patients," says center director Jean Alexander.

(ISB: #29)

GRUENAU COMMUNITY, DEWITT COUNTY, TEXAS

Source: The Nordheim View, 1971.....

Gruenau, which means green meadow, is located in the rich blackland prairie located six miles north of Yorktown. It was settled by frugal German farmers as early as 1872. David STANCHOS, then residing in Yorktown, owned a large tract of land reaching into the Gruenau vicinity and can be considered the first family that settled in the area. Vachel WELDON, Sr. acquired land from the Indianola Railroad Company and opened it for development in 1890.

Descendants of many of the early German settlers still reside in the area. Names like KOOPMAN, WARMUTH, MUELLER, JANSEN, BUESING, REMMERS. STANCHOS, STRAUBE, KIMMEL and others are familiar to all of us today.

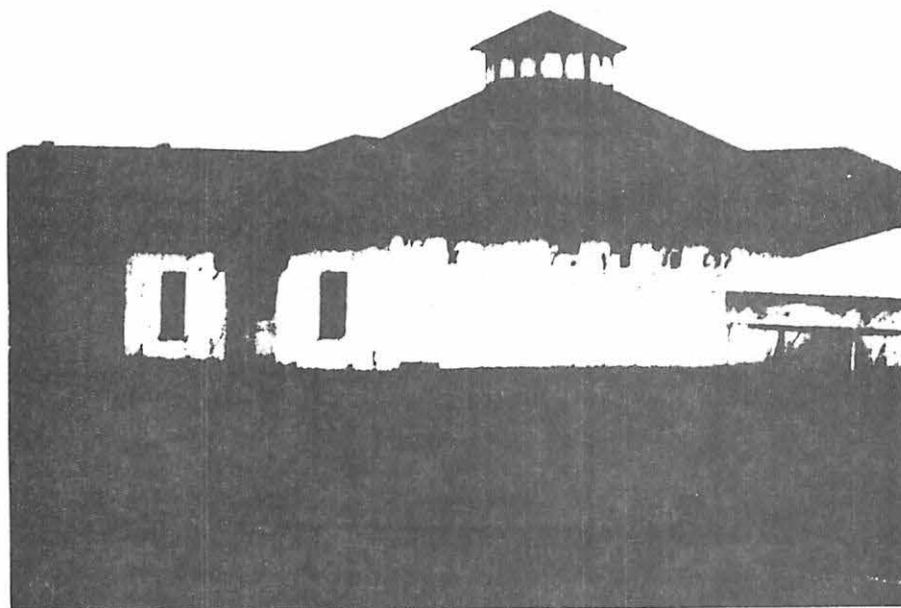
The boys of these various early settlers organized what is known as the Turnverein, an athletic organization, and practice first began in 1897. Gymnastics and calisthenics were a popular sport with German folks as were shooting clubs. Along with these athletic and shooting events were coronations, brass band music and dancing and feasting. These are some of the traditions still carried on by the Gruenau Verein although the athletic events have been disbanded down through the years.

In 1927 the first Turn and Schuetzen Verein building was torn down and the present spacious hall was built. Many additions and conveniences have been added down through the years.

No longer is the area around Gruenau the "Green Meadow" it once was for the purpose of hay making from native grass. The rich soil has been heavily cultivated and while at one time cotton was king, it also yielded to flax, grain sorghums and corn and forage.

-from the Victoria County Genealogical Society Publication

WINTER 1988



(ISB: # 8)

**Texas Wendish
Heritage Museum**

Serbin, Texas



**Witajce F'nam
Welcome**

The Wendish Heritage Museum is located in historic Serbin, Texas near the St. Paul Lutheran Church and cemetery.

The Museum preserves the story of the Wends, Slavic immigrants who came to Texas from Lusatia - an area now in East Germany.

Folk dress of Lusatia, the traditional Texas wedding dresses, and the uniquely beautiful Easter Eggs are a few of the colorful exhibits.

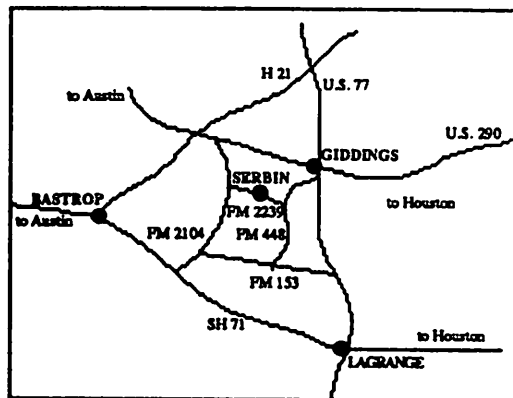
The Archives include a collection of rare books in Wendish and German, unique manuscripts, personal papers, and a photographic collection.

Admission: Non-members--\$1
Children Jr. High and younger--free
Students using library --free

Hours: Museum and Library --
1 - 5 pm Sunday thru Friday.
(Closed Saturdays and Holidays)
Archives --
by appointment

For more information call :
409-366-2441.

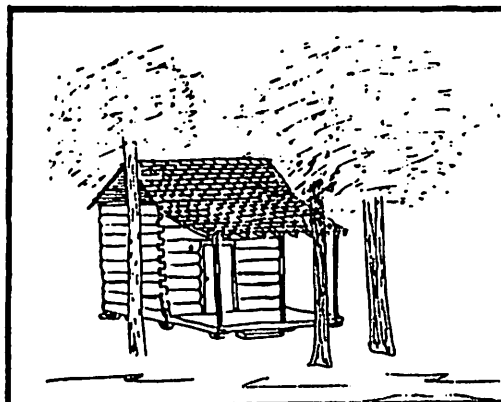
The Lillie Moerbe Caldwell Memorial Library is a research library specializing in the history and genealogy of the Wendish people. The Library welcomes donations of family histories and genealogical charts.



In 1854 a group of over 500 Wends came together on the sailing ship Ben Nevis. They founded a new homeland and named their village Serbin, which is located in present-day Lee County. Many more Wends immigrated in the late 19th Century and soon Wendish communities were founded across the State.

The Museum is a complex of buildings connected by porches. In the center is a new facility which houses the Administrative Offices, Library, Archives, Gift Shop, and a permanent display interpreting the history of the Wends.

Outdoor exhibits include two log buildings and farming equipment. The 1856 log room built by the Kurio family shows how the early settlers lived. The Mertink log room is used to exhibit carpentry and farming tools.



Group tours may be scheduled with or without a Wendish meal.

(ISB: #7)

Sophienburg Museum & Archives

MUSEUM HOURS

Open 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Monday through Saturday
Open 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday

ADMISSION

Adults, \$1.50 • Students, \$.50

Enthusiastic volunteers and staff members are on hand to provide lively and information-packed tours of the exhibits.

Group tours are cordially invited.

For an appointment, please call
(512) 629-1572,
or write:

Sophienburg Museum
401 West Coll Street
New Braunfels, Texas 78130

ARCHIVES

Collection of photographs, original written records, newspapers, oral history accounts, maps.

Collection includes German and Comal County publications, as well as holdings of all ethnic groups who settled this area from 1840's to present.

ARCHIVES HOURS

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Tuesdays and Thursdays

ADMISSION

Adults, \$2.50 • Students, \$1.00

For Information Call:
(512) 629-1900
during above hours



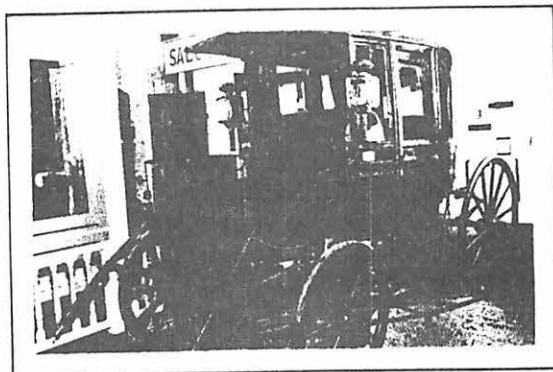
CITY OF A PRINCE

New Braunfels, founded by Prince Carl in 1845, was named for his home, Braunfels, Germany, where he lived in a castle on the River Lahn. The "Society for the Protection of German Immigrants in Texas" appointed Prince Carl of Solms-Braunfels to lead a group of emigrants to a new home in Texas. The Prince chose a site on the Comal River because of its abundant water, lush vegetation, and what he called... "a good omen".

SOPHIA'S CASTLE

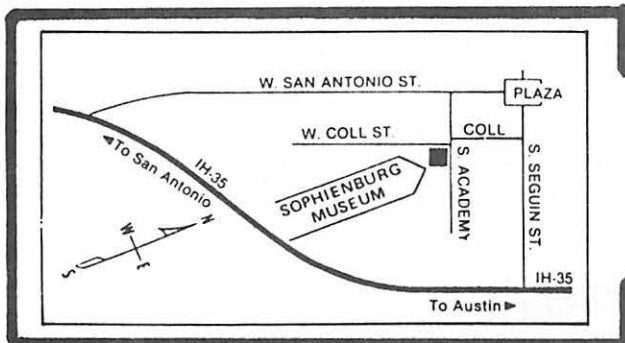
"Sophienburg", the name Prince Carl gave the hill overlooking the new village, translates into "Sophia's Castle", named for his fiancée, Lady Sophia, Princess of Salm-Salm.

Prince Carl planned to bring Lady Sophia to Texas and build a castle on the site which is now the Sophienburg Museum. Sophia, however, would not agree to come to Texas. Prince Carl returned to his homeland, married the Lady Sophia, but never returned to Texas.



HISTORY TOUR

Touring the Sophienburg is like walking through the pages of history. One senses the feelings of the early German emigrants as they embarked on their journey to Texas from the old country through the use of priceless artifacts and relics, graphic presentations of words and pictures, maps, documents, and even the hand-crafted model of the Prince's castle in Braunfels, Germany.



Located on the site where
Prince Carl of Solms-Braunfels,
erected his Administration Building in 1845.

(ISB: #21)

New Braunfels Conservation Society

Das Lindheimer Haus in New Braunfels

HERZLICH WILLKOMMEN im Lindheimer Haus. Ferdinand Jakob Lindheimer war Lehrer, Soldat, Botaniker, Naturalist und Zeitungsredakteur. Er war und ist der berühmteste Bürger von New Braunfels.

Lindheimer kam 1833 nach Amerika, also schon 12 Jahre bevor die deutschen Siedler unter der Leitung von Prinz Karl von Solms Braunfels in diese Gegend kamen.

Frankfurt am Main: Am 21. Mai 1801 wurde L. als Sohn reicher Eltern geboren. Er hatte eine gute Erziehung und Schulausbildung. Er besuchte die Universität in Bonn und Jena und war dann als Lehrer am Georg Bunsen Gymnasium in Frankfurt tätig. Nach dem Putsch von 1833 wurde die Schule geschlossen. Viele seiner Bekannten kamen ins Gefängnis oder gingen ins Ausland. Obwohl L. nicht direkt am Putsch beteiligt war, ging er unter politischem und familiärem Druck

im Herbst 1833 nach New York. Da er das Klima nicht vertrug, fuhr er über St. Louis nach Belleville, Ill., wo er seine alten Frankfurter Freunde, darunter Dr. Georg Engelman, Theodore Engelman und Georg und Gustav Bunsen, wiedertraf.

L. verliess dann seine Freunde und kam über Vera Cruz, Mexiko nach Cordoba, wo es eine deutsche Niederlassung gab.

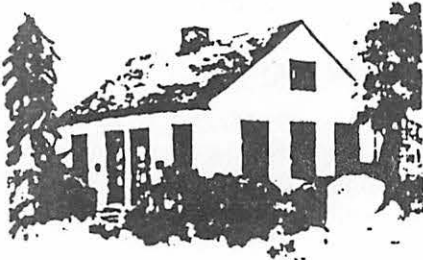
L. sammelte Blumen und Pflanzen in Mexiko und sandte sie nach Deutschland. Er arbeitete auch auf einer Plantage und in einer Weinbrennerei. Er verliess Mexiko per Segelschiff als der Krieg zwischen Mexiko und Texas ausbrach. Er kam nach Mobile, Alabama und meldete sich freiwillig bei der Armee um für die texanische Unabhängigkeit zu kämpfen. Am 21. April 1836 war die Schlacht bei San Jacinto vorbei und am 22. April erreichte L. das Schlachtfeld. Er diente noch bis Dezember 1837 in der Armee und liess sich dann in Houston nieder. L. sammelte Pflanzen, die er mit Georg Engelman austauschte und er stand auch in Verbindung mit Dr. Asa Grey von der Harvard Universität. Im Herbst 1845 hörte er von Prinz Karl und dem Adelsverein. Prinz Karl hatte grosses Vertrauen zu L., den er als Quartiermeister einstellte. Ausserdem war es von grossem Vorteil, da L. englisch und spanisch sprach, schon länger im Lande war und viele Sitten und Gebräuche kannte. Er wurde als "Ranger" eingesetzt um die Siedler vor Indianerüberfällen zu schützen. Auch war er Friedensrichter, Oberschulrat für die Schule im Kreis Comal und er gründete die erste deutsch-sprachige Zeitung hier, die er 20 Jahre lang leitete.

L. erhielt für seine Verdienste dieses Grundstück und baute als erstes eine Blockhütte. Er benutzte die Blockhütte als Lager für seine Pflanzenmuster. L. war wochen- und monatelang unterwegs und ritt oft zu den Indianern, nur begleitet von seinen 2 Hunden. L. verstand sich gut mit Häuptling Santana, der ihn für einen Mediziner hielt, da er ausser Pflanzen auch Heilkräuter sammelte. Durch die Freundschaft der beiden, wurden Konflikte zwischen Indianern und Ansiedlern vermieden.

1852 baute Lindheimer dieses Haus und er, und später seine Nachfahren, wohnten hier bis 1963.

Die folgenden Gegenstände sind Original-Stücke und waren im Besitz von L. : der Schreibtisch wurde für ihn von Ebensberger gezimmert, der Säbel ist ein Geschenk von Prinz Karl, die Bibel ist von Martin Luther und wurde 1710 in Leipzig gedruckt, Bilder und Küchengeräte und anderes. Die Möbel entsprechen der damaligen Zeit.

Als Lindheimer von einer längeren Reise zurück kam und sich müde und verdrossen an seine Hausarbeit machte, hatte er eine Idee. Er räumte seine Kutsche aus, sattelte sein Pferd und fuhr nach San Antonio. 3 Tage



später kam er mit einer Braut zurück ! Er war 45 Jahre alt als er heiratete. Lindheimers hatten 2 Söhne und 2 Töchter.

Die getrockneten Blumen und Pflanzen wurden von L. gesammelt. Die Daten und Nummern sind im Botanischen Garten in Missouri eingetragen. L. hat über 1200 verschiedene Pflanzen in alle Welt verschickt, hauptsächlich nach Europa, Kanada und nach anderen Staaten. Über 2000 Exemplare sind im Smithsonian Institut in Washington.

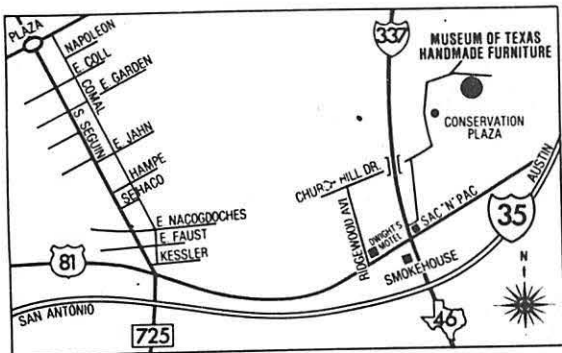
38 Pflanzen tragen Lindheimers Namen und deswegen wird er der " Vater der texanischen Botanik " genannt.

Seit 1964 gehört das Lindheimer Haus dem Historischen Verein (Conservation Society). Es wurde so wieder hergestellt, wie es früher war und wird von Mitgliedern des Vereins verwaltet.

Text: Barney Canion, Übersetzung: Helgard Suhr

MUSEUM OF TEXAS HANDMADE FURNITURE

Managed by The Heritage Society
of New Braunfels, Inc.
1370 Church Hill Dr.
New Braunfels, Texas 78130



HOURS

— Memorial Day through Labor Day —
Tues. through Sat. 10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
Sunday 1:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.
Closed Monday, except holiday Mondays
— Labor Day through Memorial Day —
Sat. & Sun. only 1:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Tour Groups on Appointment.

Admission: \$2.00 Adults; Children 6 to 12 \$1.00
Tour Groups \$1.00 per person with advance notice

For more information, contact:

The Museum of Texas Handmade Furniture
1370 Church Hill Dr., New Braunfels, TX 78130, 512/629-6504

Beginning in 1845 many German immigrant cabinet makers settled in the Hill Country of Texas. Men like Tietze, Scholl, Jahn, Ebensberger and Stautzenberger were skilled furniture makers who left their marks on the area, if not always on their furniture pieces. Over 75 original furniture items handmade in Texas dating from the mid-19th century to the late 1860's form the central focus of this unique Museum. Scores of rare home accessories, such as English Ironstone are also a part of this collection. All are on display in the Breustedt Haus, a Texas historic landmark built in 1858.



Children's Corner - A Franz Stautzenberger child's chair of mesquite with seat and back splat of elm, 1865. Table and cradle are of pine.

(ISB: #21)

Photography by Ketter

TRAVEL



Zehn Jahre suchte Annette Tryberg aus den USA Ihre Vorfahren

● Entrup – Texas: Heimat entdeckt

Entrup (gbr). Das war der Tag des Heinrich Kros und der Arliss Annette Tryberg aus Galveston/Texas: Rund 150 Jahre ist es her, daß die Vorfahren der Amerikanerin von Entrup in die USA auswanderten. „Für Entrup ist das nicht nur der erste amerikanische Besuch, sondern ein historischer Tag“, meinte Heinrich Kros in der Gaststätte „Claes“ beim Empfang der Amerikanerin, deren Vorfahren Hennecke (ob mit oder ohne ck, steht nicht fest) im Jahre 1834 nach Texas auswanderten. Am 27. März dieses Jahres verkaufte Josef Anton Hennecke, der Ururgroßvater von Frau Tryberg, das Haus an Ludwig Franz Friedrich Kros, den Ururgroßvater von Heinrich Kros, der sich sehr viel Mühe gab, die alte Verbindung neu zu beleben. Mit dem Spielmannszug Entrup wurde am 1. Mai Arliss Annette Tryberg mit ihren deutschen Verwandten am Ortseingang des kleinen Dorfes abgeholt. Viele Entruper zogen mit der Texanerin durch das Dorf zur Kirche und zum Gedenkstein, der 1989 aufgestellt wurde und an das 700jährige Bestehen des Dorfes erinnert. Die Texanerin war völlig überrascht, daß ihr ein solcher Empfang bereitet wurde: „Ich bin sehr froh, in der Heimat meiner

Vorfahren sein zu dürfen. Mehr als zehn Jahre habe ich gesucht und geforscht, woher sie kommen. Eine Freundin von mir entdeckte schließlich zufällig, daß die Henneckes aus der Umgebung Steinheim und Sommersell stammen müssen.“ Frau Tryberg war so gerührt, daß sie meinte: „Es war schön in Entrup. Kommen Sie alle nach Texas, und besuchen Sie mich.“ Bankkaufmann Heinrich Kros hatte sich nicht nur in der Vorbereitung des Treffens viel Mühe gegeben, sondern auch die Kosten des Tages übernommen. Im Saal der Gaststätte „Claes“, wo der Spielmannszug Entrup einige Zugaben spielen mußte, hatte Heinrich Kros eine kleine Dokumentation von den Jahren der Auswanderung und der Entwicklung des Dorfes Entrup zusammengestellt. Noch lange saß Arliss Annette Tryberg mit den Entrupern zusammen, um dann nach Brakel wieder zurückzukehren, wo sie vorübergehend wohnt. Bald geht es weiter nach Mainz und Rüdeshheim, um auch hier Verwandte aufzusuchen. Heinrich Kros war an diesem Tag der glücklichste Mann der Welt, hatte er es doch endlich geschafft, den Vorfahren der Henneckes ein „Welcome in Entrup“ zu bieten.



Mit Musik durch Entrup zog die Texanerin Arliss Annette Tryberg.



Ein wehmütiger Blick über das Dorf Entrup, an der Stelle, wo der Gedenkstein des 700jährigen Dorfes steht.



Neue Westfälische
Höxter Paper
2 May 1990

(ISB: #24)

Q: Can anyone find tickets to the passion play at Oberammergau in the Bavarian Alps this September?

A: First-class tickets to the famous play are included as part of Abercrombie & Kent's Great Germany Express Tour, which departs from Frankfurt Sept. 5 and goes to see the production Sept. 8. The entire tour is eight days long and makes stops including Heidelberg, Augsburg, Munich and the three castles of the notorious "Mad King Ludwig II." The passion play is performed by local villagers, without fail, once every 10 years. First performed in 1634 by the townsfolk out of gratitude for surviving a devastating plague, the play is considered an enduring part of early Western culture. For more information call (800) 323-7308.



(ISB: #9)

Bringing food from Europe can be tricky

By **WILLIAM TOMICKI**
Special to the Express-News

Q: We are taking a long European trip this summer and are curious what foods we can bring back as gifts for our friends.

A: Much of this is common sense. As you might expect, meats, livestock, poultry, sausage and pate are usually prohibited. Cured or canned meat, if cooked in a container and hermetically sealed, is generally admissible. So are most prepared foods such as bakery

items. Cheeses are allowed, but most fruits and vegetables are either prohibited or require an import permit. Most plants, cuttings, seeds and certain endangered plant species are either prohibited or require a permit. Pleasure travelers who declare foodstuff should expect customs officers at the airport to conduct a strict search and examine all products.

East Berlin changes evident in smiles 126

Los Angeles Daily News Service

EAST BERLIN — It doesn't take a visitor long to sense the euphoria in this part of the world. It's visible in the smiles of people everywhere.

It's an abrupt change from what was evidenced two years ago — a kind of grim determination to mind one's own business and get through the day.

There were no casual conversations with tourists. There was very little eye contact. There was some curiosity, but an unwillingness to really exchange information. And, often, from the Eastern European side, there was a dearth of information.

No more. And nowhere is the change more graphic than in Berlin, where for years the wall stood as a symbol of our mutual lack of communication.

These days, East German students and Western students meet in Alexander Platz to exchange views on important issues — rock bands. One recent week, the area was crowded with two separate tour buses — one loaded with U.S. soldiers armed with cameras seeing the sights and another full of French soldiers similarly armed.

For those who grew up on the rhetoric of the Cold War and watched the Berlin Airlift on the evening news, this is an astonishing sight.

The change is evident at the end of Unter den Linden street, where the Brandenburg Gate sits in a broad plaza. Now, the plaza is newly planted with flowers. Pieces of the wall have come down, exposing what used to be no man's land.

Near the mouth of the plaza, an entrepreneur has hoisted an umbrella over his supply of contraband (untaxed) cigarettes and is doing a brisk business under the indulgent eyes of an East German police officer.

As always, the main draw of Brandenburg is as a crossing to the West. The line is rarely shorter than 20 people, many of whom seem to be crossing simply to verify that they can. They go across pushing strollers, with the family dog, in groups or alone. It's as if each day they want to see if it still works.

They are met by an equal number of West Germans coming the other way. Families who have not seen each other regularly for years are trying to make up for lost time.

And then there are the police — the dreaded East German Vopos (Volkspolizei), who for years were seen as grim and unyielding. They

were the ones we saw on the news shooting those trying to flee.

It's hard to imagine a jollier bunch of public servants than today's East German cops. They smile. They joke with their countrymen. They joke with the tourists. They frequently are not armed.

At Potsdamer Platz in West Berlin, where crowds breached the wall this winter, the wall is gone. The Vopos are still there, however. They function as border guards and direct traffic. They answer questions from confused tourists and smile while their pictures are being taken.

It is a startling departure. They have the somewhat hopeless task of keeping some sense of order in the area despite the euphoria.

So, when tourists clamber on top of the wall surrounding the Brandenburg Gate to pose or take pictures, the East German police come along after a while to shoo them off.

The problem, as one explained,

Presumably, this section of the wall will come down, eventually sparing them this thankless task. In the meantime, they are in a small way the personification of the change in East Germany.

And they work to the accompaniment of what will always be a reminder of the spring of 1990 — the ringing of hundreds of chisels against concrete, wielded by souvenir seekers from Berlin and the rest of the world, working steadily on the standing portions.

The wall is really two walls, an inner and an outer, with no man's land in between.

Large sections of the outer wall have been bulldozed. But some remains. Most of the inner wall is intact but is under constant attack from both graffiti artists and people with chisels.

Wall with colorful paint on it is more valuable than plain concrete. It helps to know where your piece came from — inner or outer wall? Checkpoint Charlie or Potsdamer Platz?

Walking shoes a must for E. Berlin

Los Angeles Daily News Service

EAST BERLIN — There are a few things to keep in mind if you plan to visit East Berlin:

- Bring very comfortable flat walking shoes. There is so much construction in the city that many sidewalks are little more than paths through rubble. Also, the area next to the wall is rough and sandy.

- Forget taxis. For a large city, they are strangely nonexistent. The best way to see the city center is on foot. For wider-ranging treks, the subways are efficient, clean, cheap and quick.

- If you fly here, you will most likely fly through a major western hub such as Frankfurt. Try to reconfirm

your return flight before leaving the airport.

Phone service between East and West Germany is impossible. It was not built with the presumption of unlimited free access and is grossly overtaxed. It is easier to call the United States than to get a line to West Berlin.

- If you arrive here by train from another Eastern European country, the train will probably be mobbed. The East German standard of living is way above that of other countries in Eastern Europe.

- If you're staying in a hotel in East Germany, don't change a lot of money at once. Everyone, from room service to the Reisebüro (tourist office) wants hard Western currency. You'll have a hard time dumping East German marks.



is that the wall is 8 feet high and uneven. It would be easy to fall off and get hurt. This would be a shame.

These particular police officers have their work cut out for them. This section of wall is 100 feet long and curved. You can't see one end from the other, and just two cops scurry along the bottom trying to keep it clear. They never do; as soon as one end is cleared, people have climbed up on the other. But they never lose their patience or their smiles.

IF YOU GO:

East Germany does not have a tourist office in the United States. For information, contact a travel agent. Another source is the German Democratic Republic (East German) Embassy, 1717 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036; (202) 232-3134.

(ISB: #9)

CULTURE

Institute promotes German culture

By SARA STRONG
Special to the Chronicle

As a young man, Howard Zuch was a U.S. Army officer in Germany. Now, 37 years later, he is a student of German.

Every Wednesday night he joins Svetlana Yokum's intermediate German class to get ready for his return overseas. On this trip, he will trace his own Prussian family heritage, something he missed doing three decades ago.

A lot of Yokum's students at the Goethe-Institut at 3120 Southwest Freeway enroll in these noncredit courses for similar reasons. Others, like Ron Klawitter, have jobs that take them overseas. His German colleagues conduct business in English, but learning German helps in informal meetings.

"It's a statement that I'm interested in them and what they do," said Klawitter, vice president of finance for Baker Hughes Tubular Division.

A few come for personal reasons, such as marriage into a German family. Most sign up because they enjoy studying languages or are fascinated by German.

At any time, between 100 and 150 people — businessmen, lawyers, college students and homemakers — are enrolled in the biweekly language programs at the Goethe (pronounced GERT-a), named for 18th century German writer and philosopher Johann Wolfgang von Goethe.

Yokum is one of six to eight teachers each year at Houston's Goethe-Institut, also called the German Cultural Center.

It is an international organization sponsored and supported by the government of West Germany to promote its culture and language. Its headquarters is in Munich.

The Goethe-Institut is a branch of West Germany's government, but its centers do not function primarily to serve its citizens abroad. The goal is to introduce German language and culture to non-Germans, Houston center director Peter Reitz said.

"We are here to serve the American community," Reitz said.

The Houston center, one of 11 in the United States, serves Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Louisiana.

Besides language courses, Houston's Goethe-Institut has become known for the exhibits and movies presented at the center.

Houston Chronicle Sunday, June 3, 1990

On display through June 28 is "The Wall Speaks" — German photographer Heinz J. Kuzdas' images of art and graffiti on an inner-city section of the Berlin Wall.

The wall became a gallery of spontaneous works often painted over to accommodate a changing slate of statements of political, social and whimsical ideology.

While language classes are a big part of the center's schedule — a new program this fall will stress business German, while others emphasize conversational or travel vocabularies — most of its projects are behind-the-scenes efforts, Reitz said.

The Goethe-Institut, for instance, often helps local theater groups locate material from German authors or obtain items for accompanying exhibits.

"We cannot finance a theater production. That would be beyond our means. But we can bridge little gaps," Reitz said.

For a Houston Grand Opera production of Richard Strauss's *Rosenkavalier*, Goethe officials located photos of the 1911 premier to display in the lobby of Wortham Center.

Other collaborations with local troupes have sometimes meant underwriting airfare for a German artist to work with local performers.

Scholarships are available for American artists and museum curators to travel for study in Germany, too. This scholarship money is not from the German government, but is distributed through Goethe.

University and high school teachers often take advantage of Goethe programs. "This year, for instance, we have a series on methodology of teaching German," said Helga Wilderott-Ikonomou, associate director of the institute and head of the language department.

The institute works with the American Association of Teachers of German to provide materials and teacher training. A special program every year in Taos, N.M., targets college and high school instructors who will return to their own classrooms with skills learned in the four-week program.

"We can reach more people through the education authorities than we could with programs in this house," Reitz said.

Director Reitz came to Houston from a Goethe appointment in Sydney, Australia. He is from a long line of educators.

"In my family, they were all teachers. You had to think of a reason not to be a teacher," he said. He studied languages, psychology, musicology and law at the University of Hamburg.

He calls his 31 years with the Goethe an "organized gypsy life." His three children, now 27, 21 and 19, were raised in the many countries where he was stationed.

"We are kicked around the world much like the diplomats are," he said with a smile. "We normally don't complain. We know what we chose."

Associate director Wilderott-Ikonomou was with the institute in Frankfurt and Athens before her assignment in Houston.

"There was life before Goethe," she said with a laugh. She studied at Cambridge and the University of Texas at Austin.

Part-time teachers like Svetlana Yokum teach the language classes. A native of Switzerland, she came to Houston five years ago as an exchange student at Rice University.

Her classes are high-energy efforts where students talk, even sing, in German. They laugh a lot, too, as they stand, walk and sit on the floor at Yokum's direction.

All this moving around stimulates right- and left-brain learning, Yokum explained later, but to the students, it may just be casual fun.

Most of her students are taller than the petite Yokum, and almost all are older. But their eyes stay on the short, slight, blonde teacher in the midst of a semi-circle of desks.

On a recent night, she acted out a story in carefully pronounced German, adding a few English phrases to help her students understand. Her story was about a farmer carrying a bag filled with hay across a country's border.

The students laughed when the story ended. Then Yokum started urging them over their next frontier.

here, around world

GERMAN
CULTURAL
CENTER

GOETHE-
INSTITUT



Richard Spuler of the Goethe-Institut stands amid "The Wall Speaks" — German photographer Heinz J. Kuzdas' images of art and graffiti on an inner-city section of the Berlin Wall. The wall became a gallery of spontaneous works and political statements.

Paula Kraus / Special to the Chronicle

(ISB: #27)

Goethe-Institut Houston

3120 Southwest Fwy., Suite 100
Houston, TX 77098
Tel. 713/528-2787 (Offices)
523-0966 (Library)

Offices

Monday-Thursday 9-5
Friday 9-3:30

Gallery

Monday-Thursday 9-5
Friday 9-3:30
Saturday by appointment;
call 528-2787.

Library

Monday 12-4
Tuesday 12-7:30
Wednesday 12-7:30
Thursday 12-4
Friday Closed
First Saturday of the month,
11:00-2:00, unless otherwise
indicated.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Goethe-Institut Houston is a nonprofit arts and educational organization and part of a worldwide network of 149 Goethe Institutes with Headquarters in Munich. The Goethe Institute was established to promote German language and culture abroad and is supported entirely by the taxpayers of the Federal Republic of Germany through its Foreign Office.

THE GERMAN SONGFEST

A German Songfest was first held at the Monthalia Methodist Church on Sunday November 5, 1967, under the inspiration and instigation of Reverend William G. Birkner, the pastor. He loved the German songs, even though he did not speak or understand the German language. He even copied the words of the songs from the German hymnals and typed and mimeographed the stencils for the first two songfests. Benno and Margaret Froehner helped to choose some well-known songs. Reverend Walter Froehner was the song leader for that first occasion held during Sunday night services. Lois Willmann and Estelle Froehner played the music for eleven songs on the organ and the piano at the first songfest, and have played for all of the songfests held since.

The congregation and visitors enjoyed singing the German heritage songs very much and it was agreed that the songfest should be a yearly event. The second annual songfest was held during the night service on the first Sunday in November of 1968, when the number of songs was increased to fifteen.

In 1969, the decision to have the songfest at 2:30 P.M. on November 2nd, brought out an even larger crowd of people who loved the German songs. The songfest has been held on the afternoon of the first Sunday in November each year since that time.

Speakers have been invited to give short devotionals in the English language since 1969. Most of the speakers have been of German descent and many of them could speak the German language. Following is a list of devotional speakers up to the church's one hundredth anniversary: Reverend John Deschner, Reverend A.C. Peterson, Mr. Walter Raeke, Reverend R.R. Bloomquist, Dr. Lowell Ryan, Reverend Walter Froehner, Reverend Paul Weiss, Reverend Walter Lentz, Reverend Warren Hornung, Mr. Christian Deschner, Reverend William P. Treude, Reverend Elmer Hierholzer, Reverend Erwin Jordan, Reverend Ben Bohmfalk, Reverend Howard MacAllister, Reverend C.A. Seiler, and Reverend W. Wiemers.

It was not an easy task to get leaders for the songs since the art of speaking the German language is disappearing. Those who have in the past helped with the leading of the songs are: Benno Froehner, Reverend Walter Froehner, Edwin Froehner, Reverend O.F. Kattner, Monroe Schauer, Theo Siepmann, Leander Froehner, Nolan Froehner, Gilbert Philippus, and Lorene Froehner Windle.

Many of the much-loved German songs have been sung in the nineteen years that our church has kept up the tradition of having a yearly songfest. One song, "Immer Fröhlich" (Always Joyful), has become the theme song and has been sung each year. Many other favorite hymns have been used through the years such as: "Gott ist die Liebe", "Welch ein Treuer Freund ist Jesus", "Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht", "Erlöst", and "Freudig". The name of Reverend William G. Birkner is revered and remembered as the songfest instigator by the use of one of his favorites each year; either "Niemand Fürchtet Euch" or "Ich Weiss Einen Strom".

Three recordings were made of the congregational singing in 1970, 1971, and 1972. Many of the records were sold to people who cherish the rich German heritage we have in the songs.

The ladies of the church have always been very gracious in preparing and serving refreshments after the conclusion of the songfests. This gives everyone present a time for greeting and visiting with friends of long standing from various places.

It is the wish and hope of our congregation, that the songfests will continue in years to come so that the memory of those who came to this country from German speaking areas in search of religious freedom may be remembered.



IMMER FRÖHLICH
(Always Joyful)

Lasst die Herzen immer fröhlich,
Und mit Dank erfüllet sein,
Denn der Vater in dem Himmel
Nennt uns seine Kinderlein.

CHORUS:
Immer fröhlich, Immer fröhlich,
Alle Tage Sonnenschein,
Voller Schönheit ist der Weg des Lebens
Fröhlich lasst uns immer sein.

(ISB: #6)

(ed. note: GTHS has a project underway to collect and record information for a DATA FILE. Lorene Windle is assembling Hymn Fest facts. If you have knowledge about any other Hymn or song fests please forward this to Lorene at: 13167 Barryknoll, Houston, TX 77079)

Sursum!

sursum (sûr' sem) adv. 1. In an upward direction, upwards. b. In strengthened form. 2. (expressing position) Above, on high. 3. Elisabet Ney's favorite salutation to her friends. 4. Quarterly greetings from the Elisabet Ney Museum Association.

Spring/Summer 1990

ASSOCIATION "GIFTS" BICKLER MEDALLION

For the second time in three years, the Elisabet Ney Museum Association has located and acquired a long-lost piece of Ney sculpture for the collection. And once again it was a work previously unknown to Ney scholars.

It all began in the fall of 1986 when the trust office at Republic Bank contacted the Museum about a piece of sculpture found in the attic of the late Maisie Bickler. That's when Ney biographer Emily Cutrer, Museum administrator Jim Fisher, and Association President Gregory Free trekked immediately downtown. What they found was the approximately 22"x22" plaster portrait medallion of Austin educator Jacob Bickler, wrapped in a tattered quilt and resting inside a cardboard box. Diagonally across the medallion was a recent crack, which appeared to have broken the medallion into two large pieces. Sensing the fragility of the piece, it was requested that the medallion be moved to a more stable support than cardboard and stored in the bank's vault.

According to bank officials, the Bickler estate had not yet been settled, but it might be possible to purchase the medallion directly. The Association first contacted conservator Sarah Wolf Green for a conservation assessment and treatment proposal for the necessary restoration. The medallion was also documented photographically and both archival negatives and prints were produced. Had the acquisition not been successful, at least proper conservation and documentation reconnaissance had been completed. The medallion was then appraised by a local fine arts appraiser. At auction and in mint condition, it was determined that the medallion would bring \$2,500.00; of course to us it was priceless. Armed with the conservation appraisal, and framing estimates, the Association made its official offer of \$1,700.00 to the estate and began to wait. We were told the medallion might be ours by New Years' Day.

After several false alarms and great confusion in the settling of the estate, we became concerned. Dan Remick, our faithful friend and trust officer, told us to hang on and we did—through 1987, 1988, and finally in April of 1989, we received our call. Soon we had an archival crate built and the medallion was safely ensconced in the basement of the Museum. Conservator Sarah Wolf Green, who had moved to Washington D.C., travelled to Austin to begin the conservation. The crack was repaired and the medallion was mounted on a 3/8" thick aluminum panel. The plaster was cleaned, coated with a thin layer of gesso, and finished with a microcrystalline wax. Finally it was set into a specially designed frame built by Austin woodworker Mark Landers.

The Bickler Medallion was officially unveiled at Elisabet Ney's birthday celebration on February 4, 1990. The Association is proud to make this special gift to the Museum and all those who support the Elisabet Ney legacy.

Permission to reproduce this article given by Greg Free, President of the Elisabet Ney Museum Association, Inc.

Jacob Bickler was among Elisabet Ney's closest friends in Texas. Born in Germany in 1849, the young school teacher arrived in Austin in 1872 where he assisted his uncle at the Bickler German-English Academy. Ney probably first met him, and his large family, however, in Galveston, where he was superintendent of the public schools from 1887 to 1892. Bickler returned to Austin in 1892, and the two often collaborated on projects that they hoped would improve the community. Bickler, then director of one of the most outstanding preparatory schools in Austin—the Bickler Academy, was one of the strongest supporters of Ney's plans for the establishment of a Liberal Arts Academy. Ney was very fond of his children and often planned special events such as picnics and Easter egg hunts for them on the grounds of the studio. The portrait of Bickler may have been created as a memorial to the educator after his death in 1902.

Emily Cutrer



(ISB: #23)

* Editors Note: *
* The GTHS JOURNAL (Volume XI, Number 1, Spring, 1989, page 5) contains *
* an article written by GTHS director Helga von Schweinitz telling about *
* the vast German-Texan informational files of the Bickler estate which *
* is property of the Austin History Center Foundation. *



**FESTKONZERT
44. SAENGERTAG
des
DEUTSCH TEXANISCHEN SAENGERBUNDES
Sonntag, den 20 Mai 1990**

Villita Assembly Hall 1:30 Uhr nachmittags

- Konzertstuecke Beethoven Dance Band
- Begrueßung Ansprache Jean Dennis
Präsidentin Beethoven Damenchor
- Begrueßung Claus Heide, *Präsident des
Deutsch Texanischen Saengerbundes*
- Fahnschmueckung Bundes Beamten
- Star Spangled Banner (Audience) Francis Scott Key
- Deutsche Nationalhymne (Audience) Weise: Joseph Haydn 1797
Worte: Hoffmann von Fallersleben 1841
1. Prinz Eugen, der edle Ritter Volkswaise
*Beethoven Maennerchor, Dr. Paul H. Gottschalk, Dirigent
Shirley Donohue, Begleitung*
 2. Mondnacht Hermann Wenzel, Komponist
Rudolf Baumbach, Poet
*Austin Saengerrunde Damenchor, Paula White, Dirigentin
Paula White, Begleitung*
 3. Wenn der weisse Flieder wieder blueht Franz Doelle
*Hermann Soehne Gemischter Chor, Janet Moore, Dirigentin
Marian Moore, Begleitung*
 4. Am schoenen Rhein Gedicht von F. Rohrer
*Houston Saengerbund, Richard McGinty, Dirigent
Keith Chapman, Asst. Director, Begleitung*
 5. Wenn ich ein Voeglein waer Robert Schumann
Im Fruhtag zu Berge Bearbeitet von Heinrich Geiger
*Damen Massenor, Shirley Donohue, Dirigenten
Linda Redford, Begleitung*
 6. Friedrich Rothbart Theodor Podbertsky
*San Antonio Liederkrantz, Wayne D. Marty, Dirigent
Janine Gittinger Parker, Begleitung*
 7. Die Heimatlocken Agathon Biller
Houston Liederkrantz, Walter Fritsche, Dirigent
 8. Das Lied der Berge (La Moutanara)
Dallas Frohsinn, Adron Ming, Dirigent
 9. Auf Fluegeln des Gesanges Friedrich Mendelsohn
*Houston Saengerbund Damenchor, Keith Chapman, Dirigent
Keith Chapman, Begleitung*
 10. Auswahl
*Beethoven Kinderchor, Dorle Wilson, Dirigentin
Lee Gastinger, Begleitung*
 11. Die Welt ist voll Musik Klaus Fischbach
*Chorgemeinschaft - Texas, John Donohue, Dirigent
Shirley Donohue, Begleitung*

12. Guter Rat Rudolf Wagner
Austin Saengerrunde, Ted Zoch, Dirigent
13. Das stille Tal W. Gauzhorn
Die Lorelei H. Heine/F. Silcher
*Maenner Massenor, Dr. Paul H. Gottschalk, Dirigent
Carol Koehl, Begleitung*
14. Das Spinnerlied Richard Wagner
*Beethoven Damenchor, Shirley Donohue, Dirigentin
Linda Redford, Begleitung*
15. Die Ehre Gottes in der Natur Ludwig Von Beethoven
*Bundes Massenor, Dr. Paul H. Gottschalk, Dirigent
Shirley Donohue, Begleitung*

Beethoven Damenchor



Our *Beethoven Damenchor* has now completed over five decades of successful operation. It came into existence in 1932 as an outgrowth of the activities of San Antonio's venerable pioneer male choir, the *Beethoven Maennerchor*, which was founded in 1867 and had contributed tremendously to the preservation of the German song and word in Texas.

A small number of wives of the younger *Beethoven* singers felt the desire to also combine their musical abilities to perpetuate the songs brought by them from their former German homeland and they began to congregate in their various homes where a piano was available. The guiding light was Lottie Herrmann in whose home plans were finalized to attain the status of a recognized ladies' choir. Thus the foundation for the new ladies' choir was laid, its charter members consisting of: Gisela Bauer, Liddy Dyrlich, Hedwig Garms, Wilhelmine Bauer, Gertrude Garms, Lottie Herrmann, Gretchen Heinig, Marie Heinig, Freda Koch, Mary Schaefer, and Agnes Weyrich. Gisela Bauer served as the director for 50 years. As of the current date, Freda Koch is in a nursing home and Gretchen Heinig Schaefer is an active non-singer.

The time came when everyone concerned felt that they were "ready to face the music" in front of the public. They wanted to be part of the *Beethoven Maennerchor* organization and contacted its president, Mr. Fritz Schilo, Sr., who in turn obtained from his Board of Directors permission for this ladies' choir to henceforth operate as auxiliary of the *Beethoven Maennerchor*. A permanent set of by-laws was to be adopted and the name of the chorus was determined to be "BEETHOVEN DAMENCHOR." The requirement was established that the membership of the *Beethoven Damenchor* be obligated to support the aims and principles of the *Beethoven Maennerchor*, that is to do their utmost to perpetuate here in Texas the German song and word.

In the year 1951, the *Beethoven Maennerchor* sponsored the *Beethoven Damenchor's* membership into the Deutsch Texanischer Saengerbund, better known as the Staats Saengerbund, which was founded in the pioneer days of 1854 to bring the German male choirs of the larger cities in the State of Texas closer together and which, as of August 1951, was opening its folds to ladies' choirs.

Ever since its founding, the *Beethoven Damenchor* has been able to attract good voices into its ranks. Its functioning became well known all over the state, resulting in the forming of the *Houston Saengerbund Damenchor* on June 3, 1938, and the *Austin Saengerrunde Damenchor* on February 9, 1959. The *Beethoven Damenchor* has endeavored to do their share to support worthwhile projects of our community. They have supported the San Antonio Fiesta Association, including the River Parade and Fiesta Garden Concerts. They have sung at Saengerfests in Dallas, Houston, Austin, New Braunfels, and Fredericksburg; also, the Maifest, Oktoberfest, and Summer Garden Concerts held at the Beethoven Home. They have sung at nursing homes, hospitals, and many other functions when asked.

The *Beethoven Damenchor* is still in existence today only because of the untiring effort and unflagging loyalty of its members. They are always ready to "lend" their voices, or a helping hand. It is because of this spirit that the organization has retained its strength and purpose for 58 years. □

(ISB : #27)

THE RATHKAMP GERMAN FOLKDANCE GROUP

Die Rathkamp Deutsche Volkstanzgruppe (Rathkamp German Folkdance group) is a family oriented dance group, established in 1959. Betty and Monroe Rathkamp and several of their friends wanted to preserve their heritage and culture for their children--as well as share them with others--and so they started to perform German and Austrian folk dances for the public.

Dancing is something all can enjoy together as a family. The Rathkamp Dancers are somewhat unique in that they do not have a separate children's group; children perform with the adults as soon as they are old enough to walk and have learned their basic steps.

The Rathkamp Dancers perform dances from all over Germany and Austria. Their repertoire includes beautiful and graceful Laendlers with many figures, Schuhplatters (foot slapping dances) from Bavaria, guild (occupational) dances such as Muehlradl (Millwheel)--which represents the grinding of grain--and Die Hammerschmiedgesell'n (Blacksmith's Dance), wedding dances, and many other folk dances.

The group wears an authentic Bavarian "Tracht" (folk dress), which includes Lederhosen for the men and Dirndls for the women. It has performed all over the state of Texas, for festivals, schools, churches, and private parties, and has also marched in the Galveston Mardi Gras and Brenham Maifest parades. (ed. note: the group performed at GTHS annual meetings in Houston and Galveston)

Most recently, the Rathkamp Dancers have performed at the Bavarian Gardens Oktoberfest for 6-7 weeks each fall, as well as the Wurstfest in New Braunfels for many years, Astroworld, Folklife Festival in San Antonio, Czechfest, and many more. In July, the group will be performing for the World Economic Summit being hosted in Houston. (ISB: #27)



DALLAS FROHSINN SINGING SOCIETY

The German people are traditionally known to carry their songs all over the world. It was, therefore, no surprise when on March 25th, 1877, a group of Germans got together and founded the Dallas Frohsinn. Unfortunately, many of the early records of the activities, including names of the original founders have been lost. It is known from early newspaper reports that the Frohsinn performed in public for the first time at the May Festival of the Dallas Turnverein in the Turner Hall on May 6th and 7th. The director at that time was a Professor Bauer.

On the first of December 1877, the Frohsinn conducted their first concert combining a stage presentation with a gala ball, and it proved to be a grand success. On the 15th, 16th and 17th of April 1879, the Frohsinn for the first time took active part in the State Saengerfest in Austin. In 1883, the Frohsinn was the host to all the singers from Texas for the 15th State Saengerfest, which was followed by many more in the ensuing years.

The largest and most lavish of all Saengerfests were held in 1914 and 1936. At both of these affairs a full complement of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra performed, including several famous soloists. Enthusiasm for this entertainment was contagious and it spread throughout the entire city. From a cultural and musical point of view, both affairs were outstanding. However, the financial results were not so encouraging as an appreciable deficit was recorded.

Except for the trying times of World Wars I and II, which created a hardship on the existence of all German societies, and also voluntarily suspended the activities of the Frohsinn, the Society today can look back on actively upholding the tradition of the German Song and word in Dallas for over 90 years.

The custom of the annual State Saengerfest was revived in 1945. Each year the Dallas Frohsinn Singers, joined by hundreds of singers from all over the state, attend a two-day Songfest at one of the many host clubs. The last Saengerfest held in Dallas was in May 1968.

On Wednesday night of each week the Frohsinn meets for rehearsal at the Sons of Herman Hall, 3414 Elm Street, Dallas, TX 75226. (ISB: #16)

A new Old Country

German-American project envisions a unified center of culture in Texas

THE SAN ANTONIO LIGHT

MARCH 26, 1990

By **SUSAN McATEE MONDAY**
Staff reporter

The San Antonio Leiderkranz celebrates its 100th birthday in 1992, and West German President Richard von Weizsächer has accepted an invitation to attend.

"We're talking about - maybe - the president of a unified Germany," said Gerhard Buech, a member of the traditional German men's chorus. "We think he's guaranteed to be re-elected; he's very popular."

And when the president visits, the Leiderkranz hopes to be celebrating not only its anniversary, but also the opening of a German-American Culture and Business Center in HemisFair Park. The center would be home to the city's German heritage - as well as to vital German industrial, service and business interests.

"We want to ask Mr. Weizsächer to rededicate the German bear at a new location in the park," Buech said.

"The bear" is the black bronze sculpture that stands on the corner of Market and Alamo streets. The bear was a gift from the city of Berlin during HemisFair '68. It also, perhaps unwittingly, is a trilingual pun: *der Bär* - the symbol of Berlin - was given to San Antonio in the County of Bexar, which, while pronounced like "bear" has nothing to do with the animal. It was, however, given as a salute to the German pioneers who settled Texas, so the new cultural center would be a fitting location.

From the 1850s through the early years of this century, San Antonio was the state's most important center of German-Texas culture and commerce. Signs - such as one that cautioned travelers to walk their horses over the Commerce Street bridge - were posted in German, English and Spanish. The San Antonio Leiderkranz and other singing societies were active in the community and the German-English School was considered among the city's finest educational institutions. The Casino Club (located where the City Water Board Park on Market Street is now) hosted visiting dignitaries, entertainment and gala social events - with German the official language of the influential club.

RICK MCFARLAND/SAN ANTONIO LIGHT



MEN OF VISION: Gerhard Buech, left, Bob Burke, Bill Dielmann and Al Notzon of the German-American Culture and Business Center committee.

CENTER: To add culture

Recently, four members of the committee working on the center - chairman Bill Dielmann, Al Notzon, Bob Burke and Gerhard Buech - walked together through HemisFair Park. Each of these men brings a special perspective and expertise to the project. Dielmann is a certified accountant and businessman. Notzon, director of the Alamo Area Council of Governments, knows the governmental perspective. Burke has fund-raising expertise and Buech is an architect

and developer. All share a common vision.

"We want to create the sounds, the smells, the tastes of Germany here," said Dielmann, who is a third-generation member of the Liederkranz and a past president of the choir. Standing in the center of the walkway that once was Goliad Street, he gestured to the houses currently undergoing restoration near the new park entrance. The group could envision hanging baskets from the light posts, German music in the gazebo, pretzel and sausage vendors on the street - but *leiderhosen* aren't necessarily required.

"But real German, not pseudo-German," Burke said.

"Real German Texas, not stereotyped German," Notzon added.

"And all-the-time activity, not just on the weekends or on special holidays. The idea is to have all the excitement and all the color and flavor of Germany going on all the time. And to do a first-class job," said Buech.

These good Texans of German descent are serious - and they have done their homework. The plan began with a desire to have a home for the singing group to replace the one demolished with the building of HemisFair. It has grown into a scheme to highlight the contributions of German art and culture to Texas, with performing and rehearsal space for a variety of groups, convention activities, special events programming and a German-oriented restaurant and commerce district.

"This is our last chance as far as a German heritage is concerned," said Buech. "Outside of the German bear and King William, nothing of the German culture is really visible."

The area, according to a preliminary concept proposal from the group, would initially include about four acres of the park off South Alamo Street. This portion of HemisFair contains the Beethoven Theater and Concert Hall and six historic structures currently undergoing exterior restoration by the city. The six - all homes or commercial buildings that once belonged to German families - encompass about 22,650 square feet of leasable space - these would become home to both non-profit organizations like the *Leiderkranz* and commercial renters who would fit the area's Germania theme.

Ideas include a beer garden (members of the group have already contacted a German builder for cost estimates), a *Kaffehaus*, bakery, delicatessen, book and music store and import shops. The service sector might contain a travel agency and

German business, trade and industry offices.

"One building would be the home of the Liederkranz," said Buech, "But not to be greedy, we'd like to have it for rehearsal space and small parties for different groups to use - maybe the Bach choir or the Meistersingers, even to be a home for the Youth Orchestras."

Margaret Stanley, director of the San Antonio Performing Arts Society, has endorsed the proposal, and shared information for improvements to Beethoven Hall that would make it more useful for performing arts groups. One integral part of the proposal is to move the entrance of the hall around to the Goliad side of the building and possibly to have a replica of the original facade of the hall as part of the renovations.

Buech said that the group has also been encouraged to think about options or phased-in development for other areas of the park, especially the other historic structures. The group proposes that a non-profit foundation be formed, with representatives from arts, cultural and governmental bodies, and that a professional management

be hired for the area. The plan, as it stands, would mean raising about \$1.6 million, in addition to the \$800,000 now being spent by the city for exterior restoration. So far, all planning and professional consultation has been contributed on a volunteer basis.

The King William Association has formally endorsed the project, and the committee is taking the plan to other community groups as well. Councilwoman Maria Berriozabal said about the plan, "It's certainly an important contribution that the German community has made to the city, and this would be an appropriate use of some of the structures. I'm impressed with their thought and vision of how the different structures could be connected in a very culturally edifying way."

What can San Antonians do who like the idea and want to help?

"Send money, send money, send money," said Dielmann. It probably wouldn't hurt to write or call your council representative, too.

Donations, suggestions and requests for further information can be mailed to Dielmann, 8000 Interstate 10 W., Suite 330, San Antonio, 78230.



(ISB: #9)

PRESERVATION

Nine-pin bowling in Marion Keeping an old German sport alive

By TERRY WILT

William T. Brietzke has been bowling for 54 long years, but not the familiar ten-pin game you and I play.

Brietzke and several other Marion families have kept bowling alive in its original form by using only nine-pins.

"Nine-pins is a part of German culture in the Marion community, and we all love it," Brietzke said. "And most people who play a game of nine-pins will agree, it is more fun than regular ten-pin bowling."

If you want information on the game, the only place to find it is from the area nine-pins bowlers. Reference books in local libraries hold less than a sentence or two, about the old Dutch sport which originally started by using only the nine pins back in the 15th century.

After it came to America, the game became associated with organized gambling and was banned in many of the northeastern states. So to solve the problem, bowlers added the tenth pin, legalizing the game again.

Marion bowlers have never thought of any other than the nine-pin game, although they leave out gambling.

"We often get fellows from Randolph Air Force Base come up as guests to bowl," said Brietzke. "They all say, 'What is this, something new?' but after they bowl a couple of games of nine-pin they always like it. We tell them, 'Nope, something old.'"

Nine-pin bowling is simple, all the Marion bowlers agree, even easier to learn than ten-pin. They say it's easier because the game doesn't involve strikes and spares and the computations which follow.

"Nine-pins is a team sport, and that is the biggest difference between it and ten-pins which is more of an individual's game," explained Brietzke. "In our

Feb. 26, 1978—ENTERPRISE—Seguin, Texas

game, we have two six-man teams who alternate between two lanes. There is no rotation involved, so the team's captain may pick which ever bowler he feels is better to bowl a certain frame."

According to bowlers at Marion, one object is not to knock down the center pin in the diamond-shape arrangement. If you can roll the ball and knock down all the pins, but the center pin, then your team receives 12 points. If you knock all the pins over, then you get only nine-points.

Unlike ten-pins, a team must continue bowling at the same set of pins until all are knocked over. Even if it's the team's sixth person that finally gets the last one down.

"That's what makes the game more fun and skillful," Brietzke added. The equipment of the game is the same except there are only nine pins that are set a little further apart from each other.

Brietzke started running the bowling alley in Marion in 1931 when all they had were two lanes and a scattering of SKAT tables, another German sport, down one side of the lanes. "That was before we even had a heater in the place," Brietzke said.

"But we got along, okay. There were many match games and the local doctors would play. Of course there were ten men to a team in those days," he added.

There has always been "pin boys" who manually set the pins up after each complete frame. Brietzke said that was his job for years when he and his brother were paid \$40 a month for working on the two lanes.

"Now the kids get paid \$1.50 an hour," he added. Brietzke also remarked there is no such thing as an automatic pin setter for nine-pins. So Marion will keep their "pin boys."

"The first balls were made of pine wood when I started bowling," he remembered. "And you even had two holes to put your fingers in, not like back when they started in Germany and the balls had no finger holes in them."

"That was also the time when the game cost five cents to bowl, but of course so did a bottle of soda pop."

Brietzke said he doesn't bowl much anymore. Most his time is spent bartending at the Marion bowling alley and taking care of maintenance. The bowling club recently expanded this past summer, adding a bar and more space for about 200 persons in the Marion bowling club. The club added its other two lanes in 1956.

What does Brietzke remember the most in this 48-year career in nine-pin bowling?

"I'll never forget the time I saw a man throw a bowling ball down the lane, it took out the middle three balls in a straight line, was thrown so hard it hit the back cushion, bounced back and traveled back to the bowler through the same hole it made going forward, not touching another pin.

"Let's see a ten-pin bowler do that."

(ISB: #1)



Library of Congress attacks book rot

New York Times Service

At a rate of more than 200 volumes a day, books in the Library of Congress, the largest library in the world, are turning to dust.

But after a decade of research, accidents and administrative delays, the library reports that it is about to take a major step toward stopping the rot.

Within the next four months the institution plans to call for bids from chemical-processing companies for a preservation program aimed at saving 16 million endangered books and manuscripts, a major portion of the library's 21 million volumes. These represent a major part of America's cultural heritage.

Millions need treatment

The library's initiative will have far-reaching effects on many other institutions throughout the world, where book decay is destroying hundreds of millions of valuable volumes.

Some 300 million acidic books in North American research libraries and 400 million in Europe need treatment, according to archivists at the Library of Congress.

Although scientists believe they understand the causes of the problem, experts differ as to how to solve it most effectively and cheaply, and the forthcoming Library of Congress decision will carry weight with many other ma-

New process aims to save millions of rare volumes

for collections of books and manuscripts.

The root of the problem is the acid that forms in most modern paper. Until the end of the 18th century, most paper was made of flax or cotton fibers that required little chemical treatment for use in books and documents.

Such paper has often survived for many hundreds of years without decaying; paper documents more than 2,000 years old are still in existence.

A page from America's first newspaper in 1690 was recently placed on exhibit at the Library of Congress, and it still looks fresh.

But since the middle of the 19th century, papermakers have primarily used fiber extracted from wood, which is much cheaper and more plentiful than flax or cotton.

Paper made of wood fiber, however, must be treated with a water-proofing substance called sizing, which prevents printing from blurring.

The most common form of sizing, alum rosin, facilitates printing. But alum (the common name for aluminum sulfate), is an enemy of the cellulose fibers in paper.

When exposed to warmth and high humidity, aluminum sulfate molecules split up and form an acidic solution.

Cellulose fibers, which are made of molecular chains of carbon atoms, are easily split by even weak acids. The strength of the fibers is destroyed, and paper made from them becomes as fragile as a dead leaf.

Dr. Chandra J. Shahani, a scientist at the Library of Congress who investigates preservation techniques, said it had long been obvious that books printed on acidic paper must be deacidified if they are to be preserved. Without such treatment a typical book survives for less than 50 years before becoming too fragile to use.

In recent decades, manufacturers have begun to make wood-fiber paper that is alkaline rather than acid, paper that is stronger and more durable than acidic paper.

Roughly one quarter of the paper now used for printing books in the United States is the long-lasting alkaline type.

By using new sizing agents that do not contain rosin alum and by impregnating paper pulp with calcium carbonate, manufacturers

produce acid-free paper that is highly resistant to decay.

But the recent trend toward printing books on alkaline paper does not help about 97 percent of all books published since 1900, those printed on acidic paper. Age and acid have already destroyed many of these books.

Library conservators have developed some delicate techniques for saving a handful of extremely valuable volumes.

Testing books

Each book must be taken apart and tested to make sure that solvents will not damage its inks, sizing or binding materials. The book is then deacidified in special liquid solutions, one page at a time, and is finally dried and rebound.

But such time-consuming procedures cost up to \$35 a page, far too much for reconditioning large collections. In the late 1970s chemists developed various techniques for immersing large numbers of books in liquids or vapors that would neutralize paper acid and halt decay.

Shahani said the liquid methods were based on extremely penetrating solvents, mixtures of chloro-fluorocarbon solvents (Freons) and alcohol. Alkaline buffering chemicals (like methoxy magnesium methyl carbonate) dissolved in such solvents penetrate pages of books sprayed by or immersed in the solution, and when the solvent is evaporated, chemicals left in the paper neutralize acid.

PROTECTING DOCUMENT BY ENCAPSULATING IN POLYESTER FILM

The following brief description of polyester film encapsulation is based on a procedure developed at the Library of Congress in 1971, as one method of preserving manuscripts, maps and atlases, selected works of art on paper, and brittle and deteriorated paper artifacts. Both film and double coated tape, together with encapsulated documents, have been exhaustively tested by the Research and Testing Office at the Library of Congress and found to withstand the equivalent of natural aging for approximately 500 years.

Polyester film encapsulation is suitable for preservation of the following manuscripts, printed maps and atlases, newspapers at least one year old (newspaper inks require several months of aging and may "offset" to the film if encapsulated too soon), posters, and selected works of art on paper. It is particularly suitable for all types of brittle and deteriorated flat paper documents. A unique advantage of this technique results from the physical attraction occurring between two sheets of polyester film. When encapsulated as described, it is almost impossible to damage the most embrittled document by improper handling, whereas the same paper, unprotected, will disintegrate into confetti if roughly handled.

Polyester film should not be used to encapsulate charcoal drawings, pastels, or other works of art on paper in which the medium is loose or is likely to adhere to the film.

This technique may be used to provide either temporary or permanent physical protection for library and archival materials. The protection thus provided is considered greater than that of any other presently used method, including impregnation, lamination, or lining. Artifacts can be placed between layers of polyester film without extensive repairs and without strengtheners or adhesives between paper and film. Because encapsulated materials are readily accessible for inspection or for further preservation treatment, the method is truly archival.

(ISB: #29)

***** * Editors Note:

- * Polyester film is not the common plastic available at office supply or
- * supermarkets. This special acid free material is available through
- * Archival Suppliers. Public libraries or local museums or The Texas
- * Association of Museums can supply information for obtaining
- * encapsulating materials and supplies.

German settlers' descendants share Blue Mound heritage

Monday, March 12, 1990

The Dallas Morning News

German settlers' families to restore school

By Nita Thurman

Denton Bureau of The Dallas Morning News

A century ago, German immigrants looking for farmland saw the smooth hill rising in the distance, surrounded by flat prairie and the green banks of small streams.

It was there they stopped to build their farms, plant their wheat and corn and establish the first German-speaking settlement in Denton County. They named their new home Blue Mound.

Today, the original settlement is mostly a memory. Only a handful of people remain in the tiny farming community, an unincorporated patch of land a few miles northwest of Denton.

The old frame church was replaced in 1962 by a brick one. The sermons, once preached in German, now are in English.

The old schoolhouse, now a community center, sags.

But descendants of the first settlers keep coming back. They return on Sundays to worship at the Blue Mound Methodist Church. They return to bury their dead in the nearby cemetery. Now they're coming back to restore the old school.

"My daddy grew up out there. My great-grandfather was the second German family to settle in Blue Mound," said Carol Ganzer, 36, who is leading the drive to restore the old school. "My uncle still lives there. It's a special place for me."

The two-room structure, the third building to serve as Blue Mound's school, is sadly wanting. Its tin roof is deteriorating. The chimney is in such bad shape the big iron stove can't be stoked.

The new church fellowship hall, with central heating and air conditioning, is preferred for the family reunions that used to be in the old schoolhouse. The structure is sound, however, and renovation will cost less than \$10,000, Miss Ganzer said.

She and others became concerned when they heard the school might be razed. The community owns the school, church and cemetery site.

Miss Ganzer, who lives in Denton and is treasurer of the Historical Society of Denton County, opposed the plan and was elected chairman of a committee to oversee renovation of the school. Her committee hopes to have a Texas Historical Marker placed on the site and establish a foundation to provide perpetual care for the building. The historical society is helping with the restoration effort.

Albert Schertz, 83, and his wife, Odessa, 79, went to school in a building that burned and was replaced by the present school. They still live on their Blue Mound farm just north of the school and church.

"He still runs some cattle, but he sold the sheep last year," Mrs. Schertz said. "All these years, he's always clipped his own sheep, but he's got where he just couldn't do it anymore, so he sold them."

Mrs. Schertz hasn't joined the campaign to restore the old school, although she's considering it. "But I sure would hate to see it torn down, I'll tell you that," she said.

Ella Trietsch, 81, grew up in Blue Mound when everyone there spoke German.

"All the church services used to be in German," said Mrs. Trietsch, the church's historian. "Sometime after the First World War, we started having an English service on Sunday night because people had moved into the community who couldn't speak German but had no other church to go to.

"Then in 1938, we turned to all English because we couldn't get a German-speaking preacher."

The German immigrants who settled Blue Mound came from many directions — from South and Central Texas, from Missouri and Nebraska, or more directly from Germany. They came by train, covered wagon or horseback.

Blue Mound. Travelers heading west often stopped there first.

She laughed at the memory of a family loaded into one horse-drawn wagon — mama, papa, six kids, and household furnishings, with dogs, cows and more horses trudging alongside.

"My mama and daddy came in a train when they bought the place, but then they went back and got their cattle," Mrs. Trietsch said. "They drove them all the way from McLennan County near Waco. It was a hot, dry summer, and they suffered from lack of water.

"They drove all the cattle through, but about half of them died after they got here."

The men planted their crops, dug wells and built their houses. Other German-speaking immigrants were drawn to the community. Farms prospered and families grew. It was then that Blue Mound established its school and church.

Mrs. Trietsch said her father taught the first year of school. He also was an "exhortor," or a certified lay speaker, at *Zions Gemeinde*.

Mrs. Trietsch's father, Louis Linenschmidt, and her two uncles bought 900 acres and established neighboring farms in 1894. They joined the Ganzer and Barthold families, who already had built farms on the rolling prairie.

Mrs. Trietsch's childhood home was beside the only road through the German name for the German Methodist Episcopal Church.

School was taught in English, because Mr. Linenschmidt thought students should learn the language of their new country, Mrs. Trietsch said. God was worshiped in the old tongue.

Mrs. Trietsch doesn't recall much of a cultural gap with other Denton County residents.

"The thing I really remember — we took lunch to school — is that we had light bread and the other children had biscuits," she said. "They thought our bread smelled so good, and we thought their biscuits smelled so good."

REMEMBERING BLUE MOUND

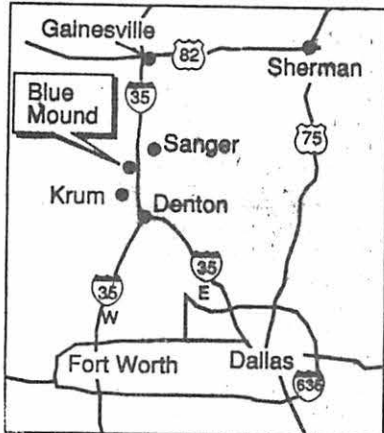
"We never had biscuits except when we ran out of light bread."

The periods after World Wars I and II brought many changes to Blue Mound. Young German-Americans became more Americanized, and use of the German language diminished. Young men back from the wars didn't want to stay on the farm. Land changed hands.

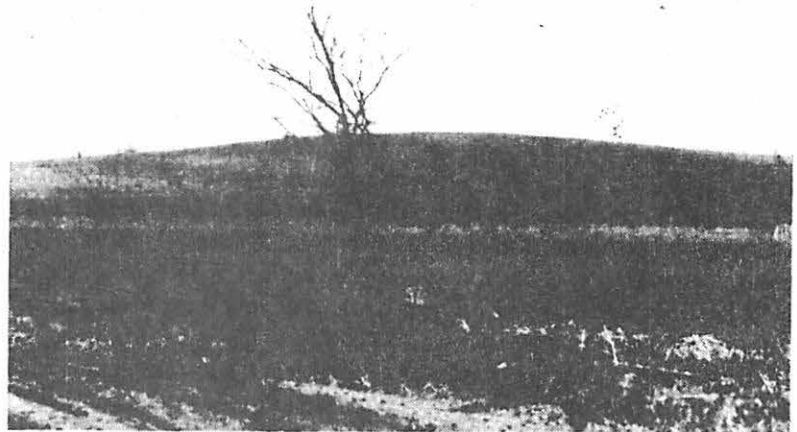
But the past remains. The early settlers left their names on roads and streets and carved into the tombstones at Blue Mound Cemetery. And they left a heritage that a younger generation again wants to share.

"I go out to the cemetery a lot," Miss Ganzer said. "My folks are buried there, and I'll be buried out there when I die."

"That's where my heart is."



The Dallas Morning News



The Dallas Morning News: Paula Nelson

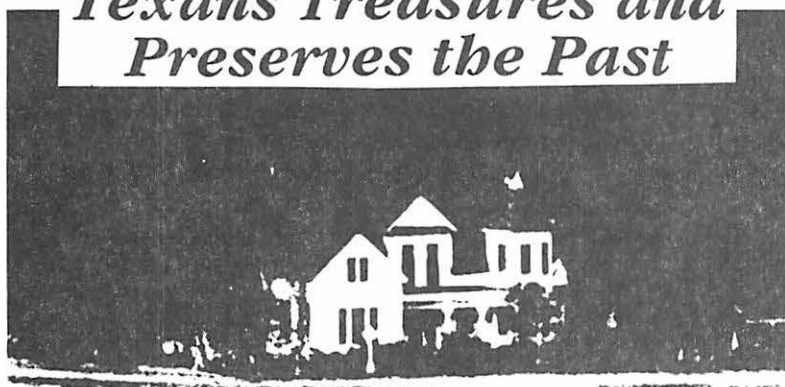
Settled by German immigrants, Blue Mound in Denton County gets its name from the rising land near the community's only remaining buildings.

(ISB: #26)

HERITAGE A PUBLICATION OF THE TEXAS HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

SPRING '90

A New Generation of Texans Treasures and Preserves the Past



This 1860s home built by a German immigrant to central Texas was "adopted" by the Junior Historian chapter at Pflugerville Middle School.

There is a new generation of Texans vitally interested in researching and preserving our historic links with the past. The Junior Historian movement was founded by the noted Texas historian Walter Prescott Webb and is sponsored by the Texas State Historical Association.

Since its origins in 1939 thousands of junior and senior high school students have used their textbook knowledge of Texas history to explore the history of their own communities.

The Junior Historian movement is teaching young Texans to do rigorous re-

search on local history, emphasizing the use of such primary resources as oral histories, documents from local collections, and on-site visits.

Each year a statewide competition is held where a thousand young students from all over the state present their projects, which have already won first or second place at local and regional competitions. The 1990 state meet will be held at the Stouffer Hotel in Austin on May 4-5.

It is inspiring to attend the exhibition and see the fascinating and creative projects these young people have produced from their historical research. The winners from the state go on to compete at the national meeting in Washington. For the past five years Texas has won more awards at the national level than any other state.

This organization assures that Texas' proud history will continue to be honored and preserved by a new generation of Texans.

(ISB: #29)

HISTORY – RESEARCH

Charles Pressler: German Youth's Letters Tell His Frontier Texas Adventure

(This article appeared in the *New Braunfels Herald* originally. Permission to reprint has been granted.)

The adventures of a 19-year old German youth who came to Texas in 1846 are the subject of this article. The source is a collection of letters written by Charles Pressler to his family in Germany. In his letters home during 1846-47, he described conditions for the benefit of relatives who had considered following him to the New World. He wrote of his triumphs and disappointments. Like many of his countrymen who came to frontier Texas in the mid-19th Century, Charles found the Americans and their ways less than perfect. Copies of the letters were obtained by his granddaughter, Mrs. Henry B. Barnhart of Dallas, on a trip to Germany in 1952. (Mrs. Barnhart is also the granddaughter of early New Braunfels settlers Friedrich Theodor Sterzing and his wife, Helene Cobet, who came to Texas under the auspices of the German Emigration Society, landing at Galveston in November 1845. The Sterzings arrived in New Braunfels with their infant son during the bitter winter of 1845-46 when a fever epidemic struck the settlement, taking the lives of hundreds. In 1855, the family moved to Austin. Their oldest son, Fritz Franz August Sterzing married the daughter of Charles Pressler, the subject of this article.)

Young Charles Pressler, like other fellow Germans, came to Texas to escape the abusive tactics employed by the separate German states to discourage a movement toward German unification as a republic. Trouble in Germany began with excessive taxes to meet heavy war debts caused by the Napoleonic Wars and maintenance of expensive military establishments. Extravagance at many of the German courts added to the tax burden. Political agitation for the liberation and unification of Germany was met with suppression. Many among the educated classes were fired with indignation at the restrictions. Government espionage became rampant. Hundreds of men in all walks of life were under rigid police surveillance. Many were imprisoned for expressing, or merely holding, different political views from those of their government.

Men of education, scientists, university professors and teachers, jurists and physicians, suffered most from political persecution. The press was gagged and literary productions subjected to merciless censure. This state of affairs created in many men of intellect and energy the desire to emigrate to a country with free institutions and a liberal government. Germany lost many of its well educated. Among those who came to Texas in search of the freedom of thought and action banished from the German states was Charles Pressler. He arrived in Galveston from Germany on February 5, 1846, aboard the Bremen barque "Franziska" that carried 234 immigrants under the auspices of the "Society for the Protection of German Immigrants in Texas."

Like the ambitious youth of every generation, young Charles Pressler in 1845 was impatient with the imperfections he encountered in the world about him. He left Germany at 19 to seek a better world in Texas. It was a time when thousands of individualistic German men of all ages were emigrating to America to escape intolerable conditions at home.

Charles' objections to life in Germany included "being under the pressure of government employees, police and a government which abuses all human rights."

He had received his degree in surveying and would have liked to continue in architecture. "...I had hoped to get enough schooling, but I was through working for the Prussian State," he reviewed his reasons for leaving in a letter to his family from Austin, Texas, in 1846.

This feeling was quite apart from his pride in being a German, which he proclaimed in the letter. He soon learned that all the world's ills were not confined to Germany. Texas presented him with problems as well. In common with many of the educated Germans who came to Texas in the mid-19th Century, he railed at being looked down upon as a "foreigner" by Americans of lesser learning whom he encountered.

And he was homesick.

"You hardly can imagine how excited I was hearing from you," he wrote his family in reply to letters received after he had been in Texas 13 months.

"I could not even sleep after looking at all the pictures you sent me from home. To tell the truth, I am not happy here. How could I? Here they despise our fatherland and give us a hostile look when we talk German with another fellow or show interest in what is going on in Germany," he wrote of his life in Austin. Yet, Charles was positive he could not attain happiness in Germany, he said.

He hoped that a friend would be bringing him more letters from home.

"You would not believe how much I am longing for you and how much it will comfort me to hear from you."

Charles' family consisted of brothers and sisters and their families. He was four when his mother died, and a devoted older brother, Hermann, had raised and educated him. The boy was sent to schools in Weissenfels, Griefstedt, and Eisleben. During summer vacations he visited his sisters and brother Jacob.

After he completed his education as a surveyor, he immediately was employed by the government. However, he became "sick of the political currents and the clerical boredom" and decided to join the Mainzer Adelsverein and go to Texas.

The Adelsverein was organized by a society of German noblemen with the aim of establishing a German colony in Texas. New Braunfels and Fredericksburg were founded by

the society which sent shiploads of immigrants to the state. Many of them, like Charles, did not settle in either of the two cities.

Charles embarked on the "Franziska" at Bremerhaven in October 1845 with four other young men. They were Julius Franz, Fritz Kannengiasser, Albin Sörgel, and a man named Schäfer. Julius was a brother-in-law of Charles' brother Hermann. Sörgel, son of a bookstore owner, had been refused a divorce from his wife who had been confined in a mental institution several years.

A terrific storm in the English Channel forced the ship to seek shelter between the Isle of Wight and Portsmouth, England. Here they anchored an entire month. The young men visited Portsmouth and the beautiful island known for its scenic parks and high chalk cliffs. During a maneuver of the British Royal Fleet, they saw Queen Victoria and her husband, Prince Albert.

Finally, a favorable wind came up, and the ship sailed around the island, south past the island of Madeira, and west across the ocean. Huge dolphins and flying fish frolicked in the sea as they approached the West Indies.

The ship sailed on between Santo Domingo and Jamaica, past Cuba, and into the Gulf of Mexico to Texas.

Unfavorable winds kept them sailing along the coast for several days. Food was rationed, and the drinking water acquired a bad taste the last eight days on board.

Finally, Charles landed at Galveston in February, four months after he had left Germany.

Charles and his four companions landed at Galveston where they found several hundred German immigrants.

"The Adelsverein had promised free transportation to our destination; however, since the war with Mexico was going on, all kinds of transportation was employed by the government," wrote Charles.

They had travelled to Texas on a boat sponsored by the Mainzer Adelsverein, a society of noblemen whose aim was a German colony in Texas.

While Albin Sörgel travelled inland, the others rented an unfurnished room in Galveston for \$7 a month. Bedding, which they brought with them, was spread on the floor, and they cooked their meals out of doors.

During the weeks Sörgel was gone, Charles, Julius, Fritz, and Schäfer hunted and fished.

Sörgel returned, having bought a few hundred acres at what is now Roundtop. The five young men collected their belongings and boarded a river boat to Houston from where they set out on foot for Sörgel's land with two packed mules.

At the end of their 100-mile journey, the Germans set about turning wilderness land into a farm. Prospects for a successful harvest were not bright since the time for planting had all but passed.

"We fenced 2-1/2 acres carrying all the lumber on our bare back. It took us a full week. A sled with only one ox could have done the work in one day.

"With three more men we turned the soil on 2-1/2 acres in two weeks where two men, one ox, and a plow could do the job in two days."

Charles saw little hope of prospering on the farm. He and Julius had planned to join the troops in the war with Mexico. Since Charles did not own a horse, Julius had promised to help him get one in return for work on his portion of the land.

However, Julius decided against military service after a few days on the farm.

"Julius backed out and told me to stay, too. I could not join by myself, and I did not want to be ungrateful to him.

"From our log cabin looking down the hill we could see the road from Washington to La Grange leading to West Texas. Often we saw volunteer companies from East Texas and the Northern States passing by quite cheerfully. I was sad that I could not go along with them."

They bought a hog and four little pigs for \$4. Twelve hens, at 25 cents each, produced 40 baby chicks within three months. The flock learned to come to the call of a feeding bell.

Still, farming held no promise for Charles, and at the end of three months he persuaded Julius to leave with him in June. Fritz and Schäfer stayed. Julius and Charles set out on foot for Austin, 95 miles away, hoping to find employment in the General Land Office.

"All I had was \$10, while Julius had a little more besides his violin on his back. One loaf of cornbread was all we took along. At noon we camped near a small creek, enjoyed there a slice of our bread. Julius was playing the violin when all of a sudden a Yankee showed up. After listening for a while, he showed us the way he played the violin.

"In the evening, we reached La Grange on the east side of the Colorado River. It is the largest settlement in Fayette County, with 70 to 80 log cabins and frame houses surrounded by beautiful live oak trees. The other side of the Colorado River is 150 to 200 feet higher.

"Being the major settlement of the county, here people buy and sell their goods or attend court and political elections. It looks more like a German market place than a city. They have a newspaper, hotels, warehouses, and even a stock market office (which is mostly closed). Large signs with "Hot Chocolate" and "Confitures" are all over the town, but if you ask for it, they don't have it. Julius wanted to stay here and had several offers as a building craftsman, so I left him and headed for Austin all by myself.

"You don't find hospitality here (in Texas), and every morning I had to pay half a dollar for one cup of coffee, cornbread, and the universal food here, bacon.

"After three days, I reached Bastrop, in Bastrop County, seated on the Colorado River also. Since the revolution, it is an important town but does not look like La Grange. On the fifth day, I came to Austin, the capital of Texas and Travis County."

Austin was a pretty city, surrounded by hills on the east side of the Colorado River, Charles wrote to his family in Germany. "Do not expect palaces here. Not at all," he cautioned. There were only 50 to 60 log and frame houses, including the capitol and the governor's home. It was the last settlement on the river with not even a farm to the West, only Indian territory.

"The next day I called upon a German who is working in the Land Office drawing maps. He told me he could not help me on account of my poor English. He tried to speak to Colonel Ward but without success.

"I tried everything, but after acquiring \$2 in debts at the hotel, I finally worked in a bakery as a helper for \$9 a month and free room and board."

The bakery owner, a German, also owned a brewery.

"The beer is good, and the cookies!"

Two weeks later, his friend Kreuzbauer at the Land Office came to tell him Col. Ward wanted to see him.

"I made my visit *a la* Texas style: cotton pants and a short blue coat, one trouser leg in the boot, my felt hat on my head. I was introduced by Kreuzbauer. He offered me a chair and told me I could work for two months for \$20 a month and free room and board.

"I got a room in a log cabin with a sofa, upholstered chairs, a mirror with a golden frame, and a bed with mosquito net. Here I lived very happily for two months.

"Col. Ward was a grand old soldier of the Texas Revolution in which he lost his right leg and arm.

"I had good meals again. Poultry of all kinds, pastries, ham, peaches, figs, watermelon. I wished Julius were still with me; three meals a day and, according to the custom here, a warm meal three times a day, every one like a big German supper with mostly, of course, meat. I missed only greens. Our drinks were water, sweet milk, or buttermilk which always was made fresh an hour before dinnertime. To really enjoy the meals, a Negro had to fan with a big flag to bring a kind of cooling effect in the room and shoo away the flies.

"The work was not hard at all, just drawing maps from 9 to 12 and 2 to 5 p.m."

Young Charles apparently enjoyed a certain social privilege while working in Austin during the summer of 1846. He wrote of a gathering he attended at which the wife of Governor J. P. Henderson was present. It was one of the occasions when Charles was wounded by a derogatory remark about Germans or things German.

"In a social gathering one time, a doctor told everyone that English is the most expressive language in poetry; more than French, Italian, and German. Especially German, he said, was not fit for poetry; (saying it) very probably, to insult the Germans present. When I asked him whether he could speak French, Italian, and German, he had to deny it, and I told him that he was unable to judge about those things.

"Kreuzbauer (Charles' superior at the Land Office) asked Governor Henderson's wife, who speaks all three languages, and she, who is English, told the doctor that German poetry is the best.

"This made him so mad that he tries to insult us whenever he sees a chance."

Smarting from the insults, Charles indulged in a few opinions of his own in a letter to his family.

"The national pride of the Americans is really difficult to understand. They never pronounce a Latin word as the Romans do, everything in the American way. Even English is an insult.

Charles wrote of the July 4 celebration in Austin in 1846.

"Independence Day was celebrated of course, with a big ball in the Capitol. I did not join on account of not having a Congress coat. However, I peeked around and enjoyed it from the outside." The music left a little something to be desired, Charles felt. "An American played the first violin while a German played the second and a Negro a *triangle*. That was the band. The daughter of the Governor even said she had never seen such a fine big orchestra. You see, Uncle Sam's daughters are easily satisfied.

"From there I went immediately to a funeral.

"Our office surely was not a health center. We lost three persons out of 15 in the last 14 days. We just buried our Spanish interpreter who had to translate all Spanish documents. The coffin was placed on a wagon drawn by four horses. A Negro was driving, and everyone else was riding along on horseback - some in blue coats, some dressed in white, some in black, white hats or dark hats - up to the cemetery in the woods. However, the coffin was too big for the grave, and we all had to dig it a little wider before we could let the coffin go. Then we all filled the hole with soil.

"On the 25th of August my work was done, and I had to quit. However, the world looked brighter with a saving of \$35 in the pocket."

Charles had worked two months, July and August, for \$20 a month and room and board. During the preceding two weeks, he had worked as a baker's helper at a salary of \$9 a month, plus room and board. He had been \$2 in debt by the time he went to work in the bakery. In two and one-half months, he apparently spent only \$7.50.

Charles objective was "to see and learn everything in Texas." He had planned to begin by joining the army of General John E. Wool which was leaving San Antonio between August 23 and 28 on an expedition to Chihuahua during the Mexican War.

The day Charles was preparing to leave Austin, August 26, he met Jacob de Cordova. De Cordova was a Jamaica-born land agent of wide fame in Texas. A letter addressed merely "Cordova, Texas," would reach the man. He named many of the creeks in Comal County, and for a time settled on the Guadalupe River just south of New Braunfels.

"He is a real estate man," wrote Charles to his family. "Knowing all about real estate, I offered him my service, and we agreed under the same conditions I was getting in the Land Office, \$20 a month and free room and board.

De Cordova, living then in Philadelphia, was a highly successful land agent. It was he who founded Neighborville in 1847, an agricultural community lying roughly in and near what is the Milltown section now of New Braunfels.

Young Pressler headed the surveying expeditions of de Cordova in 1846 and 1847 and checked details of the agent's first map of Texas in 1840, according to the HANDBOOK OF TEXAS. That was the year de Cordova founded Waco.

De Cordova had accumulated script on one million acres of land by 1859 and delivered lectures on Texas in the East in New York City, Brooklyn, and Philadelphia, and abroad in London and Paris.

A romantic and a dashing and cultured gentleman, de Cordova would compose a pen to his wife and pin it to her pillow whenever he left on one of his jaunts.

De Cordova and his family moved to Texas about 1848 and established his "Wanderer's Retreat" which later became known as Cordova Farm, then the community of Cordova between Geronimo and Seguin.

Pressler filed the deed for Neighborville in New Braunfels in 1848 (Comal County Deed Records, Vol. 34, Page 305).

In letters to his family in Germany, young Charles wrote of his experiences as surveyor for de Cordova.

"Texas has given free land to all first settlers. Every soldier (of the Texas Revolution) received a certificate and was paid in acreage. The owner of a certificate can claim his land where he wants it. There are plenty of those certificates issued, and Cordova buys those or stakes out the claims for other people. He is looking after it himself to be sure those people get good soil. His fee is one-eighth of the claim.

"We left the other day for San Antonio right away on horseback, each equipped with a good rifle. He has 12 horses distributed over the country. After crossing the Colorado River at Austin, we were in the prairie, wide and open, with some mesquite trees, a kind of locust, and live oak trees.

"Only on river banks did we find narrow stretches of trees. Clear nice water and dark fertile soil: good grazing land. I read in Germany one time this mesquite grass stays green always, even through wintertime. This is not true. It is harder to kill but still not enough to keep cattle through wintertime. The loss is great and it is hard to get milk and butter during that time.

"Hay has to be imported if one wants milk and butter through the winter months. There are no barns for the cattle, and the cattle have to be rounded up from a distance of 30 English miles sometimes. In springtime, they have their round-up and picking up of the calves.

"After crossing Liveoak Springs, a place where Captain Wrede (commandant of the guard at New Braunfels) was scalped and killed half a year ago, we arrived at the San Marcos River in the evening. A wonder of nature! A small spring in a little pond running up to a stream of 25 ells width and six feet deep.

"The water of those rivers is often so clear that even in 20 feet you can see every little rock and fish at the bottom. The water must have quite some calcium to be that clear, just like our little spring in Gringelock which contains quite some calcium compounds, too. All the water of these west rivers is very transparent.

"We stayed here overnight, sleeping on the ground and wrapped up in a blanket after having a supper invitation by an American who is going to settle here.

"He is living in a tent, and his Negroes are erecting a log cabin here. One of the Negroes had to stay up all night to save our scalps and horses from Indians." Twenty houses had been built in San Marcos within the preceding six months, wrote Charles.

After a night on the banks of the San Marcos, Charles and de Cordova continued southward.

"... around noon, we reached New Braunfels on the Guadalupe River, already a nice and important little city, the third biggest in Texas with about 3,000 inhabitants (Galveston, 5,000; San Antonio, 4,000).

Here is the seat of the German noblemen, but many have a hard life, and often you see a baron sawing wood to make his living. Some, of course, are still sponsored by the Verein and take it easy," wrote Charles.

The "Verein" to which he referred was the Society for the Protection of German Immigrants in Texas which sponsored immigration to Texas. Beset by trials, many of which resulted from ignorance of frontier life, the Verein was in dire financial straits at the time of Charles' visit. Since life in Texas was not quite ideal as immigrants, or the society, had anticipated, the latter was the target of much criticism.

"However, some day there will be an end and the money gone. Then they will have to work and have to learn how to make a living," wrote Charles of the idle noblemen.

The Verein retained men to administer the settlement, and the task was great. It is doubtful those Charles observed were being subsidized by the society since the organization was practically bankrupt.

There were noblemen who learned how to work after their personal funds were depleted. And there were those who sat back and let their peasant wives work for them.

"I stayed with Henkel who owns a restaurant and a little shop here in partnership with someone else. He is conducting a good business and always has received me in a very friendly manner. His name, Henkel, Count von Donnersmark, he has shortened, calling himself only Henkel.

"The price of an acre here has climbed up to 10 and 20 dollars. For some places in town they have paid \$300.

"No threat of Indians here anymore, only occasionally do they steal horses and a scalp is lost. Between here and the coast, everything is free of Indians, and it is a lie of German papers who say immigrants were attacked by Indians on their trek from the coast. They might as well write Indians attacked Berlin.

"I will drop my claim to the 160 acres (the land which the Verein gave to each immigrant coming to Texas under its sponsorship) only if they make me stay on it before it is deeded to me.

"We left New Braunfels at 2 p.m. and reached the Cibolo (Mexican name for buffalo) at sundown. The river is absolutely dry here while up and down this place it is quite a running stream. We notice that quite often here in the West.

"Late at night we saw the rivers of the Alamo, the tragic end for Travis, Bonham, Bowie, and Crockett."

Perhaps Charles meant the Salado or Leon Creek.

"Half an hour later, we reached San Antonio after riding 53 miles (from Austin). The crossing of the San Antonio River was quite difficult. It was a dark night, and the crossing path not straight. But we made it.

"San Antonio, founded in 1731 by a colony of Spaniards from the Canary Island, is quite a sight. The older buildings partly in ruins, are made with walls three to four feet thick," wrote Charles.

Larger houses, one-story structures, were built with 4x4 beams which protruded from the exterior walls. In the center of the wall was a large gate leading into a patio upon which the rooms opened. Charles noted stone floors, one small window to a room, and open fireplaces.

Between large houses were small ones, living quarters of the half-Indian Mexicans. Their dwellings were built of mesquite poles anchored in the ground, plugged with cowhide, and covered with adobe. Roofs were thatched with palm leaves.

Four of five Spanish missions were closed and in ruins.

"One of the favored sports of the Mexicans is swimming in the Antonio River. Often I saw Mexican children between seven and 10 years swimming beside big logs directing them down river.

"The river is divided in several branches and channels but partly fallen to pieces and covered with mud. I found along the river 'indisches Blumenrohr' (Indian or Hindu cane), passion flowers of pale red colors, fig trees, peach trees, and 'Granatapfel' (pomegranate) wild growing remains of earlier settlements.

"I met here persons more than 100 years old, not more than four feet high and bent, with hair as white as snow; nothing but skin and bones.

"After eight days, we finally went surveying in the western hills, Indian country. The next town we reached was Castrovilla on the Medina River, 25 English miles from San Antonio. A nice little town inhabited by Germans, Frenchmen, and Mexicans. Castro, not very much liked in Germany, has done a good job here, and nobody was unfriendly to him. However, these settlements, here and elsewhere, have the disadvantage of very expensive living. For instance, for two pounds of batatas (potatoes?) you pay one-half dollar. Good flour in Houston runs \$6 per barrel. For freight, you have to pay \$3 per 100 pounds."

Hence, flour was \$12 to \$14 a barrel in Austin; \$21 in San Antonio.

Charles and de Cordova camped on the Medina several days, waiting for more men to join them. At night they kept a man on guard against Indians.

"One day I found some nuts along the river as big as our hazelnut, in a triangular shell. (Probably acorns.) I showed them to the Americans and we tasted them. Very sweet. But they gave me throat troubles right away, and I stopped eating them. But not the Americans. After a few hours they all became very sick.

"We killed two bucks attracted by the fire. They are much smaller than ours, similar to our does. We kept most of the back part and tongue since we had plenty of game. However, do not become covetous. Deer prepared in your kitchen is much more tasty than ours, just seasoned with salt or powder and barbecued over an open fire within 15 minutes. You can imagine that after preparing it in this way it is still tough and has not lost that certain odor.

"After the others showed up, we, eleven altogether now, set out and reached Quihi settlement, all Germans, belonging to Castro's colony.

"We found 20 to 30 houses located on Quihi River. However, almost everyone was sick from drinking the water out of the pond.

"This was for a long time the last settlement in the west. However, five miles farther is a new settlement, Vandenberg; after that, nothing but prairie up to the Rio Grande.

"We followed the Presidio del Norte Road, trailed by 30-40 Comanches. They always watched us from a certain distance, naked with bow and arrow on horseback. We were lucky to meet about 200 volunteers who were returning from the Rio Grande (Mexican War), so we ran off the Indians.

"After passing the Hondo and Seco, we left the road, following the Sabinal River towards the hills.

"Quite often we ran into rattlesnakes, not big, the largest had nine rattles. The Americans are quite afraid of these snakes, but one cook, a Mexican, dismounted and killed them with his whip, bringing the rattles back as a souvenir.

"We crossed Canon de Uvalde where a few Mexicans fought several hundred Indians and drove them back.

"The surroundings are quite nice out here. All hills have few trees but would make good goat ranches.

"We found several wild turkeys. They are just as big as the tame ones, black feathers shining copper red and green. During the mating season, you can hide somewhere imitating the call of a female turkey with a feather to attract the male ones.

The best chance is just before sunrise or in the evenings, for in the evening, a male will call for at least half an hour to gather the hens (as many as 20) and they are easy to find that way.

"We spent a month out here without further excitement except one day (when) we found a tree full of bees.

"Yes, Texas is the land of milk and honey. Only milk is rather expensive and honey not available in all places. Well, I tell you it was quite a lucky day to run into these bees. We had been out of sugar and honey for a long time.

"Our Mexican discovered the tree. All excited he yelled, 'Treebee, treebee!'

"We chopped the tree, a big oak, with axes, fighting the bees a while, but we made it, and everybody was happy. What fun with all the sticky beards afterwards and two to three-pound pieces in the hand. The rest, six gallons of pure honey we squeezed out with our bare hands, was saved in a fresh buckskin, or course, in the inside, and tied on mules.

"On our way back, we followed an old Indian trail. No wild life at all here, and all we had were fish for eight days. We made San Antonio hungry but quite well.

"I left San Antonio all by myself, headed for Austin via Bastrop. In (New) Braunfels, I had bad luck.

"The first norther hit there early in the morning on a mid-October day, so I could not leave Braunfels on account of the heavy rain.

"I did not know the river crossing, and nobody was around to ask for details. When I crossed the river, I thought I had found the right place. However, as soon as I was in the water, the horse started swimming. Half way across, the current was really dangerous.

"My horse and I almost drowned, and I lost my bag with the money and clothes.

"Several Americans on the other side watched me but did not help at all. All they had to say after I reached the other side was 'He made it!'

"I could not reach another settlement that day and had to camp in the open prairie. I was all wet. Another norther came up, and I caught a bad cold.

"Finally, I made Austin with high fever and terrific headaches. Five days later Cordova arrived, told me to wait there for papers, and left for Houston.

"I followed five days later although still (with) fever in every bone. Friends told me not to leave, but I did.

"I made Bastrop in two days this time. Otherwise, it took me only three-fourths of a day. From there I crossed the Colorado River following the river on the east side.

"Hardly any settlements around here. Then another fever attack. No water and the hot sun! Like hell! Finally, I saw a log cabin. Nobody (was) at home.

"I broke in the locked kitchen. No water in the house. Outside, no water in the well. Back in the kitchen. I looked everything over. Nothing to drink. I fainted, and after a while the fever eased off.

"Then I saw a milk-pitcher full of milk. I emptied it and laid down on the floor covered with my blanket.

"I fell asleep, and late in the evening I was awakened by a woman. I told her everything. She saw my weakness and kept me till the next morning without charging anything for the milk.

"I felt even worse the next day. At noon, I came to another log cabin occupied by an old Negro woman. A ten-year-old boy fed my horse, and I asked for buttermilk which I got.

"In the evening, a man came home for supper. We talked a while, and I told him I planned to leave at one o'clock. He asked me not to leave on account of straying Negroes around here.

"Not long ago they killed two ranchers; and last week they tried to get in his mill, 500 feet away from the house, to steal some flour. However, they could not open the door.

"He went back to his mill with a rifle and two pistols. I slept in the attic. A ladder from the only room, in which the old Negro women slept, led upstairs.

"I must have slept till one when I was awakened by approaching horses. Someone knocked at the door, and when the old woman opened (it), two Negroes came in asking for something to drink.

"Others were still outside. They asked her whether she was by herself, and she finally told them a sick German was in the attic.

"Although they spoke quite easily now, I still could hear them saying, 'Let's kill the saddle horse.'

"I was prepared for anything, looking for some kind of a weapon in the attic, but I did not find anything.

"The two finally went outside again, offering the others something to drink. Talking things over, they finally decided to go to another place first and come back later. The old Negro woman told them not to kill him.

"After I calmed down, I stepped down the ladder, the blanket around my shoulders and walked outside, my papers and money hidden under the blanket. I locked the door from the outside, jumped several fences, and ran into the prairie, hiding in the high grass. At 3 a.m., I heard them coming back. At daybreak, I went back. Doors (were) all open and nobody around. I saddled my horse and left.

"I did not notify the sheriff about it, which I should have done, since it may mean they may run me out of Texas after it becomes known that I knew about those straying Negroes."

At La Grange, Charles was told Julius had worked only through the summer months and had left for Houston or Galveston.

"The next day I came to Sörgel's farm," Charles wrote his family in Germany. "Nobody was at home." He walked over the garden and through the field but found no one. His fever returned, and he wanted to rest. Finally, Julius and Fritz arrived. They had been picking pecans in the woods.

"Cheerfully we exchanged our experiences for quite a while," wrote Charles.

Sörgel was not at home. He had acquired a job with the immigration society and was in Galveston where he had been ill for three months.

Fritz had been left to run the farm by himself.

"Sörgel left nothing, and Fritz had to borrow everything for one-fourth of a year. I don't know what to think about Sörgel."

And Schäfer had left Sörgel in a most unfair way, according to Charles, who later learned the man died in Galveston. Apparently Sörgel was hired by the immigration society despite his sharp criticism of it. He had visited New Braunfels as well as Indianola while the others waited for him in Houston and wrote about the deplorable conditions at that time in his letters to Germany which were published under the title FÜR AUSWANDERUNGSLUSTIGE.

Sörgel must have recovered from his illness, for he visited New Braunfels in January 1847, about six weeks after Charles' visit to the farm. His description of the settlement appears in his book NEUESTE NACHRICHTEN AUS TEXAS, published in Eisleben in 1847. An English translation is included in Dr. Rudolph Biesele's THE HISTORY OF THE GERMAN SETTLEMENTS IN TEXAS.

"The old clumsy huts have disappeared and have given place to a number of neat and permanent houses, about 300 in number. The fields are no longer neglected on account of the more pressing need of providing shelter. The fields are being fenced and plowed, so that in the coming summer a good crop of corn, potatoes, and vegetables may be expected.

"The inhabitants have a good income from business with the new arrivals and with travelers between San Antonio and Austin. Wages fluctuate but are never lower than 50 cents per day. A town lot costs from 60 to 300 dollars, and land is sold from two to five dollars an acre.

"The number of settlers in New Braunfels and vicinity is probably between 1,500 and 2,000," wrote Sörgel.

(To be concluded)

(ISB: #29, ED. BY: #25)

Baylor Sponsors Planning Session

Researchers from the United States and Germany met at Baylor University recently to plan 150th anniversary celebrations of the German Adelsverein - a society founded in 1842 to promote the development of a German colony in Texas.

The Adelsverein, or "League of Nobles", as it was known, was established as an economic venture by 21 German-speaking princes who united in a stock company to colonize areas of the New World. Between 1844 and 1850, the society was responsible for the migration to Texas of as many as 10,000 German people.

Coinciding with the 1992 sesquicentennial of the founding of Adelsverein is the quincentenary of the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus. Dr. Glen E. Lich, director of Baylor's Regional Studies Program, which sponsored the Adelsverein planning conference, also is a member of the Texas Columbian Quincentenary Commission.

Lich said the group attending the two-day Adelsverein conference included representatives from state and national historical societies, Texas and German research groups, museums, libraries, archives, and the Texas Committee for the Humanities.

The group's objective, he noted, is to lay a groundwork for research and to produce a 64-page handbook for studies of the German migration to Texas during the 19th century. The handbook will be released in May.

Contributors include Joe B. Frantz the Turnbull Professor of History, Corpus Christi State University; Howard R. Lamar, the Sterling Professor of History, Yale University; Eckhart G. Franz, director, Hessisches Staatsarchiv, Darmstadt, Germany; Hartmut Heine-mann, Hessisches Hauptstaatsarchiv, Wiesbaden, Germany; Terry G. Jordon, the Walter Prescott Webb Professor of Geography and Ideas, University of Texas; Theodore Gish, director, Institute of Texas-German Studies, University of Houston.

Also, Gunter Moltmann, Historisches Seminar, University of Hamburg; David Striclin, Institute for

Oral History, Baylor; Ann Lindemann, president, German-Texan Heritage Society; George Miles, the William Roberson Coe Curator, Yale Collection of Western Americana Beinecke Rare Book Library; Ron Tyler Director, Texas State Historical Association; Mark Lane, director, Witte Memorial Museum; Curtis Tunnell, executive director, Texas Historical Commission; Robert O'Conner, associate director, Texas Committee for the Humanities; and Lich.

"We plan to uncover some of the personal foundations of American society by focusing on the biographies of people and by looking through the eyes of individuals at the major social, cultural, and economic phenomenon of migration," Lich said. "What were the dreams and motivations of the immigrants? How successfully and in what ways did they adapt? What goals did their leaders have? What is the legacy?"

He said of particular interest to the field of Regional Studies is the dual perspective which the project will generate of seeing an event in Texas in relation to American History and European History. "Only when history is viewed as part of a whole and from multiple perspective can it assume validity as history."

The conference was supported by Baylor, the Max Kade Foundation of New York and the German Research Foundation.

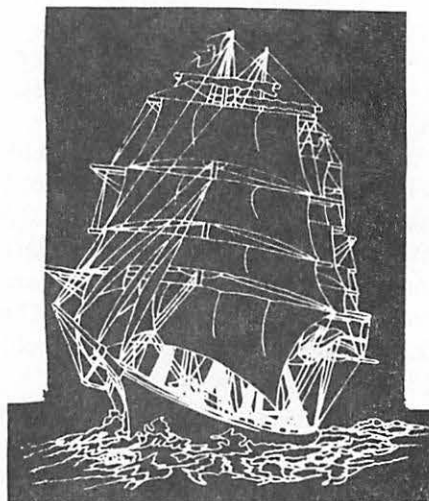
For more information about the Adelsverein anniversary project, contact Lich at (817) 755-2190.

THE NEW ULM ENTERPRISE
MAY 3, 1990



The purposes of the *Dimensions of Discovery* conference on the *Adelsverein* are to produce a handbook for studies of the German migration to Texas during the nineteenth century, the "second great age of exploration"; to prepare for the sesquicentennial of the founding of the *Adelsverein* in 1992, a date which coincides with the quincentenary of the voyage of Christopher Columbus and which therefore encourages the study of the Germans and the *Adelsverein* in a continuum of discovery and exchange; and to develop contexts for the study of Texas. The objective of this effort is to uncover some of the personal foundations of American society by focusing on the biographies of people and by looking through the eyes of individuals at the major social, cultural, and economic phenomenon of migration. What were the dreams and motivations of the immigrants? How successfully and in what ways did they adapt? What goals did their leaders have? What is the legacy? Of particular interest to the field of Regional Studies is the dual perspective which this discourse will generate of seeing an event in Texas in relation to American history and European history, for only when history is viewed as part of a whole and from multiple perspectives can it assume validity as history.

Baylor University



Dimensions of Discovery

A Planning Conference
for the Sesquicentennial
of the German Adelsverein

1842-1992

23-24 February 1990

Baylor University
Waco, Texas

(ISBN: #29)

ARCHIVES OF THE TEXAS WENDISH HERITAGE MUSEUM

By Daphne Dalton Garrett, Archivist

When the Wendish Culture Club was organized in 1971, the founding ladies had no idea that the organization (now known as the Texas Wendish Heritage Society) would be operating a museum, library, and archives. Now entering its 10th year, the museum has evolved from a small collection housed in one building of the old St. Paul's Parochial School to a large collection managed and exhibited in a complex of two school buildings, a new facility, two log cabins, and outdoor exhibits. The mission of the museum, library and archives is to preserve the heritage and interpret the history of the Texas Wends, one of the European ethnic groups which immigrated to Texas in the 19th Century.

In 1854, nearly 600 Wends boarded the sailing ship Ben Nevis, and despite some loss of life on the journey, arrived in Galveston in December. As a group they purchased a league of land in present day Lee County and founded a new homeland. They named their village Serbin, in reference to their origin as Serbs of Lusatia. The Wends are a Slavic race, but were citizens of Prussia and old Saxony, an area now in East Germany. They spoke Wendish and German and were members of the conservative "Old Lutheran" churches. Many more immigrated during the 19th Century.

The Archives of the Texas Wendish Heritage Museum are an outgrowth of the museum collection which began with one Bible in the fall of 1980. Donations to the museum arrived in boxes which contained miscellaneous items--typically a baby dress, a tea cup, several family photographs (unidentified), a mule harness, a family Bible in German, and a hymnbook, catechism, and Bible in Wendish. Every item was put on display. By 1984 the volunteer staff of the museum was swamped. During a check of the accession records, we realized that over one half of the collection belonged under the care of an archivist, and certainly not on permanent exhibit.

Due to my experience as a historical researcher, I was appointed archivist. The same year, 1985, the Society of American Archivists held their annual meeting in Austin, and I was privileged to be accepted in the three day workshop for beginners, "Archives--an Introduction." Since that time, I have been striving to catch up, and the archival accessions continue to grow daily.

According to other archivists, every institution has a backlog to process, but for us two things make progress very slow. As unpaid staff we are unable to work every day, and secondly, the cataloging of our collection



SSA NEWSLETTER

SOCIETY OF SOUTHWEST ARCHIVISTS

is especially tedious. Ninety-nine percent of the printed matter, manuscripts, and certificates of the historical collection are in Wendish and German. Most of these are in the old fraktur printing and the old German script. The elaborate lettering of the title pages of both the German and Wendish books, which date from 1555, adds to the difficulty. Fortunately I read printed German in fraktur, and some of the older society members read the old German script as well as fraktur

The Wendish language in fraktur print and old script used the German alphabet plus eight special accented characters. Only one or two of the oldest descendants still read Wendish and they are not in a position to help. However, we manage to catalog the Wendish in consultation with Dr. Joseph Wilson, a member who is Professor of German at Rice University and an expert on Wendish history and language.

In addition to the records of the society and museum, the archival collection consists of 550 rare books on religious historical and educational subjects, about 1000 images, collections of personal papers, the Anne Blasig research collection, baptismal, confirmation, and marriage certificates, and newspapers. The archives does not accept original church records--these are located either with the Lutheran congregations, the Archives of the Texas District of the Missouri Synod, or the Concordia Historical Institute in St. Louis.

The rare book collection contains many early editions of the writings of Martin Luther, but the books most revered by the Wendish descendants are the Kilian translations into Wendish and the original writings of Rev. Johann Kilian, the religious leader of the 1854 immigration. In the photographic collection the portraits of the wedding couples are unique to the Wendish heritage in Texas. They show the progression from the traditional black bridal dress of the 19th Century to the grey and eventually the white of the 20th Century.

During the planning of a new fire resistant building to house the administrative offices, library, workrooms, and a permanent interpretive exhibit, the archives received special consideration. A fifteen by twenty foot windowless vault was constructed of concrete block, with concrete floor and ceiling. This archival storage area is located next to the research library. The archivists also have a small office and workroom separate from the museum staff workroom. Every effort is made to follow standard archival procedures, and this new building,

which opened in January of 1988, has made the job much easier.

The Assistant Archivist, George Boyce, and I appreciate the advice of John Anderson, Photograph Archivist of the Texas State Archives, Ralph Elder of Barker Texas History Center, and Dr. David Gracy and the seminars presented by the Graduate School of Library Science at the University of Texas.

The Texas Wendish Heritage Museum is located near St. Paul Lutheran Church and Cemetery in Serbin. The Museum and Library are open from 1 to 5 p.m. daily except Saturday, but an appointment must be made to use the archives.

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Austin ★ ★
SERBIN

Texas Wendish
Heritage Museum

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(ISB: #7)

Freethinkers on the frontier

By Karl and Betty Wehmeyer

Onward Tuesday, February 17, 1987

When the village of 650 inhabitants at Austin became the Capitol of the 5-year-old state of Texas back in 1850, an experiment of an extraordinary nature was commencing just 65 miles away.

While Austinites struggled for food and clothing, some of the leading scientists, artists and thinkers of war-torn Europe settled in a dale between where two creeks join the Guadalupe River in what is now Kendall County. These immigrants brought with them not just clothes and guns, but books, linens, china, paintings, musical instruments and a new philosophy. They were not frontiersmen; most were royalty, professors or doctors.

Because of its location in the dale between Sister Creeks, it was known as Sisterdale. The German refugees who settled it were freethinkers, intolerant of excess in any form except intellectual.

One of the first three to arrive in Sisterdale was Dr. Ernst Kapp, a highly regarded geographer and philosopher in the old country. He escaped to America in late 1849 after the last of numerous books on political philosophy had sent him to prison. He and his wife and five children bought 50 acres where bears and native Americans roamed the forested bottoms.

The house and outbuildings Kapp built in the 1850s and those of the scores of other like-minded refugees from Germany's revolution of 1848, still stand today in the dale, but only the ancestors of one of the original settlers still live on land in Sisterdale.

...

Kapp first built a two-room cabin of sturdy oak logs and hewn rock. The windows were small outside but large enough on the inside to shove a rifle through. The door leading to the largest room was made of thick planks with studs driven each inch to ward off arrowheads and tomahawks,

moot testimony to the anxious respect the settlers had for Indians even after an effective treaty between the Germans and Comanches.

Writing of his visit to America and Texas in the early 1850s, Frederick Law Olmstead described his visit to Kapp's: "Sisterdale is a settlement of eight or ten farms about forty miles from San Antonio upon the Guadalupe at the junction of the Sister Creeks and the crossing of the Fredericksburg Road. The farmers are all men of education and have chosen their residences — within social distance of one another."

Describing a typical Sisterdale castle, he says, "His house was the very picture of good nature, science and back-woods. Romances and philosophies were piled in heaps in a corner of the logs. A dozen guns and rifles, and a madonna in oil after Murillo, filled a blank wall. Deer skins covered the bed, clothes hung upon antlers, snake skins were stretched to dry upon the bedstead, barometer, whiskey, powder horns and specimen of Saxony wool occupied the table. The dinner was Texan, of corn bread and frijoles, with coffee served in tin cups — but the talk was worthy of golden goblets."

Kapp and Baron Ottomar Von Behr were the magnets that drew others of like persuasion to Sisterdale: the Dresel brothers, Julius, Emil and Rudolph; doctors Ferdinand Von Herff, Julius Froebel and Adolph Douai; Gustav Theissen; August Siemering; Edward Degener and Louis Von Donop. Von Herff was a surgeon (his heirs still practice in San Antonio). Douai founded the *San Antonio Zeitung* and was father of American kindergartens; Degener became a U.S. congressman from the 4th District, and Theissen became a financial wizard on Wall Street.

As the community grew in the early 1850s, Kapp's home developed into many things for the settlers or "Laitainers," as they became known to

communities in Central Texas. It was here, at Kapp's developing Hydrotherapy Institute that the freethinkers met at least once a week to discuss the latest in science, literature, politics and music. The discussions were in Latin.

Kapp's two-room home became a water-cure spa for visitors from around the world. By 1852, the spa had grown to such dimensions that Hermann Lungwitz, whose paintings hang in the Capitol, rendered a pen-and-ink sketch of it. Surrounding vignettes show various clients undergoing treatment: One man with his legs in running water, another being wrapped in wet sheets to be followed by a warm bed, still another receiving a massage. The most amusing is one in the lower left corner labeled "Sitz Bad" showing a gentleman in a frocked coat and stove-pipe hat sitting in a chair with a ruffle around it.

The settlement adopted Kapp's "Philosophy of Internal Cultivation": Cultivation of the soil, housing, sense of neighborhood and friendship, the body, and the social and political environment. The first four worked wonderfully. The Sisterdale community was the envy of much of the world. People from every walk of life came to see how these folks could entertain, read, write, live and raise crops (as much as 2,500 bushels of corn, some wheat, cotton and tobacco was reaped from 60 acres in one season working only three hours a day). But the fifth, "cultivation of the social and political environment," was their undoing.

The freethinkers of Sisterdale, along with most of the Germans in Texas, were violently opposed to secession and morally opposed to slavery. As Civil War approached, their voices were raised in protest. Douai was shipped away in chains, and Siemering, founder of the *San Antonio Express*, was silenced.

Pioneer intellectualism and the Germans who brought it to Central Texas

In 1862, martial law was declared in Texas. All male aliens older than 16 were required to take an oath of allegiance to the Confederacy. Five hundred German Unionists met at Bear Creek in Gillespie County and organized three companies of militia to protect their homes and the frontier. Fearing open insurrection, the governor sent detachments in search of the outspoken Germans, among them the Lateiners of Sisterdale. The Union Loyal League, founder of the three frontier companies, disbanded, but 61 men met on Aug. 1, 1862, and headed for Mexico. In the early dawn of Aug. 10, the poorly armed Germans were attacked by a Major Duff. Nineteen Germans were killed in the fighting; nine of the wounded were murdered. Of the others, seven more were killed trying to cross the Rio Grande. Their bodies were left where they fell for three years, until their remains could be returned to Comfort. With their deaths, the Lateiner settlement came to an end.

Kapp, his wife and son Wolfgang returned to Germany. Three daughters remained in Texas.

The rest of the Sisterdale Lateiners fled in many directions. Today, there are fairly numerous Behrs, Herffs, Donops and Froebels in the San Antonio and Austin phone books. But most of the descendants of Sisterdale Lateiners live in and around Comfort.

The town of Comfort was itself considered to be a freethinker's settlement and even, to some extent, Lateiner. It was the German cultural center for the Hill Country. Even Sisterdale folk brought their children to Comfort's "free" school and attended the opera, theater, shooting and singing clubs, and gracious afternoon kaffee klatches. It was natural then for Kapp's eldest daughter, Antonie, to move her brood to Comfort when the settlement broke up. She and her husband, Johann Christian Flach, who had eight children, may be the progenitors of some 150 inhabitants of today's Comfort.

One of these heirs to the Kapp intellect, is Ida Perkins, the 80-year-old



the Kapps in the early 1850s

Ernst Kapp and his family fled to Texas after political troubles in Germany.

great granddaughter of Ernst and Ida Kapp. Of the nearly 100 pre-1910 buildings that placed Comfort on the National Register of Historic Buildings, many belonged to Ida's parents, Ida and Paul Ingenhuets or her grandparents, Antonie and Johann Christian Flach. The Ingenheutt store, operated today by another descendant of Ernst and Ida Kapp, offers a glimpse of the past.

Ida Perkins remembers the Sisterdale culture she enjoyed with her grandparents: "You should have been living then — because we had fun!"

Sisterdale is a wide place in the road, but its Sisterdale store, open from 10-6 weekdays, 10-8 weekends and closed Mondays, is a museum of Sisterdale culture.

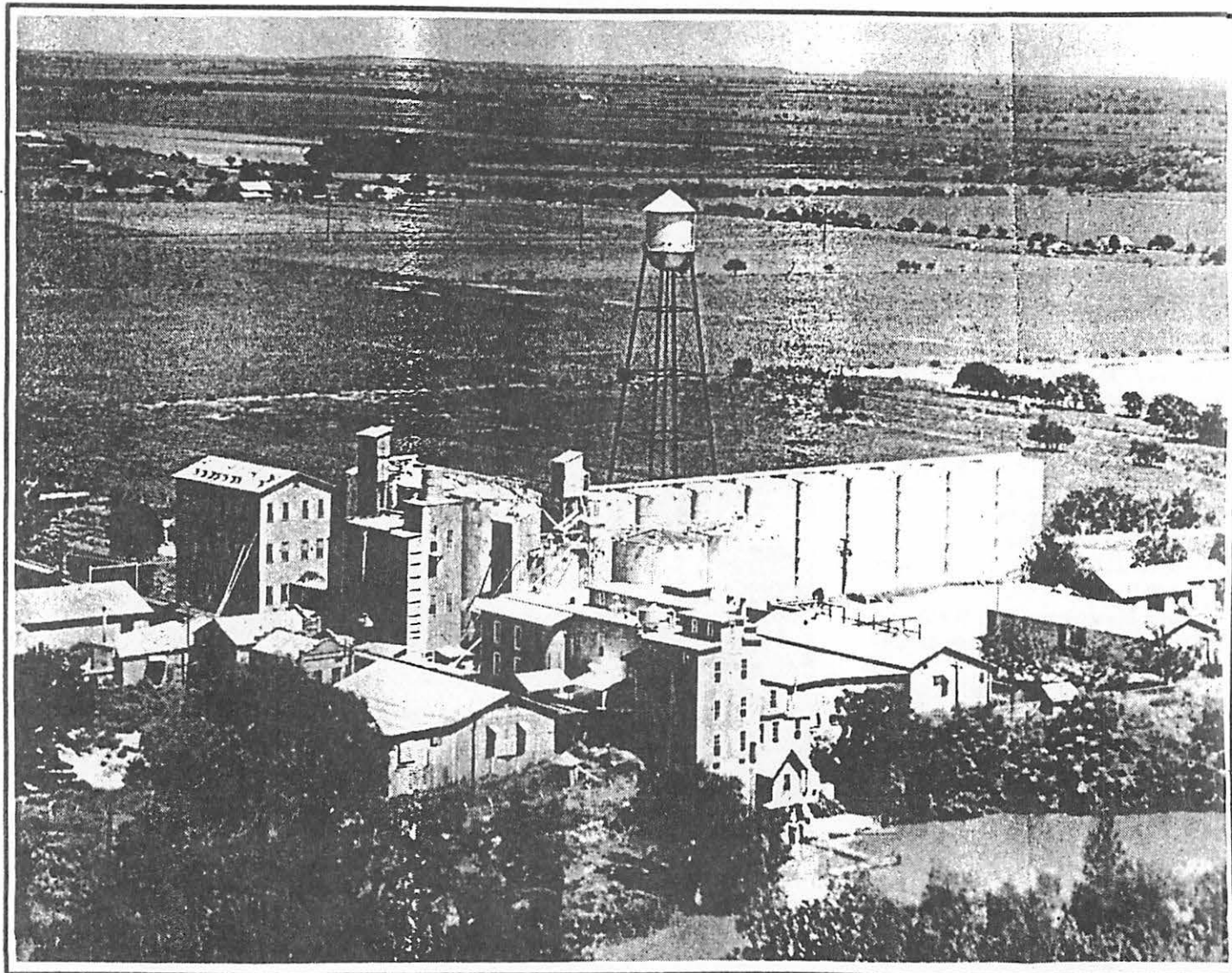
The town is 13 miles east of Comfort, which is on Interstate 10 between San Antonio and Kerrville. To reach Sisterdale from Austin, go west on U.S. 290 through Johnson City to FM 1376, which is the road to Luckenbach. From Luckenbach, Sisterdale is 14 miles south on FM 1376.

Karl and Betty Weymeyer are freelance writers based in Ingram.

(ISB: #17)

Seguin Milling Company

the way it was



PHOTOGRAPH
by Leon Studios.

The Seguin Gazette-Enterprise - Sunday, November 8, 1987

EDITOR'S NOTE: This past Monday evening a Seguin landmark burned to the ground. More than 150 firefighters fought the blaze at the Seguin Milling Company flour mill buildings. Below is a history of the milling company compiled with the help of Nelda Kubala, Edna Wahls, Alton Bierstedt and Paul Becker. The photographs seen here were taken by Leon Studios and by Dan Daniels. The Gazette-Enterprise wishes to express its thanks to these people for their help in this project.

Henry Troell Sr. was the original force behind the Seguin Milling Company.

Troell was born in 1838 in Germany. After his father remarried, he left Germany and came to Texas in 1858 by way of Indianola, first going to New Braunfels and then later to Seguin. He married Johanna Woehler from Seguin, fathered 14 children, 10 of whom grew to adulthood.

He bought land at the end of Cherry Street on the Guadalupe River and built a grist mill on a dam which still is visible. Later he sold to Greifenstein and it became known as Greifenstein Falls.

Troell then bought the Guadalupe River bottom (Park View Estates as it is now known) on the opposite side of the Guadalupe River and built a home. He bought the Jake Miller Falls from Seguin and improved the dam (now known as Saffold Dam), built a cotton gin, waterworks light plant and flour mill.

By 1907, he had sold the waterworks and light plant to the city of Seguin. He sold a two-thirds interest in the Seguin Milling and Power Co. to the Noltes and Holmes.

The flour mill back then...

photograph of the flour mill in 1977

He retained a one-third interest and moved it from Jake Miller Falls to the Erskine Ferry area west of Seguin. The Seguin Milling and Power Co. grew to a big, important industry in its day. The Holmes family had the water rights; the Noltes (Edgar, Walter and Eugene) provided the capital; and the Troell knowledge and experience built the dam.

A story which appeared in the May 12, 1938 issue of the Guadalupe Gazette-Bulletin states that "the first plant was built in 1902, having a capacity of 250 barrels of flour per day. This plant was partially destroyed by fire in 1905, but was rebuilt at double the original capacity. The present capacity is 750 barrels of flour and 300 tons of mixed feeds per day.

In 1938, J.P. Gibbs was president and general manager. Also in 1938, Ben E. Schmitt was vice president and secretary.

Troell had died in 1921 at the age of 83. He has two daughters still living today, one of them is Meta Wille of Seguin who will be 87 soon.

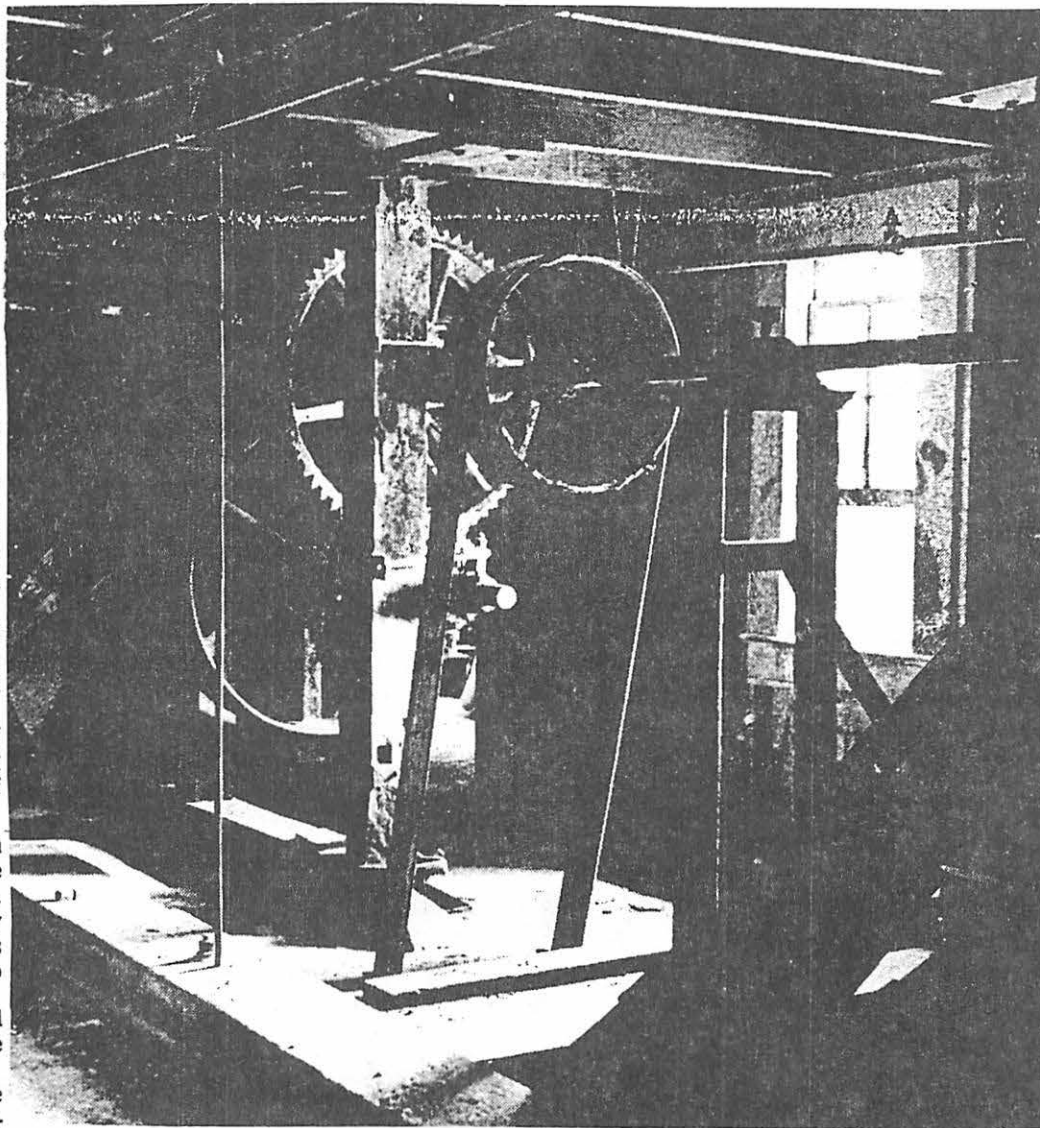
At that time the company held an affiliate relationship with the Kimbell Elevators in Fort Worth. Kimbell had more than 100 country elevators buying wheat in the Texas wheat growing section, according to the newspaper article.

The brand of the flour, corn meal and feeds produced was "White House."

In 1938, it was estimated that the mill supported directly and indirectly approximately 8 percent of the population of the immediate community.

Edna Wahl remembers that when she arrived in the area in 1951, the mill was owned by the Kimbell Company and later by the Dittlingers in New Braunfels. It was closed in 1975 and the property was sold SMI which still retains possession.

(ISB: #1)



* Journal editors note: *
* This news item is why the German-Texan Heritage Handbook and *
* Registry is such an important part of the GTHS preservation *
* effort. German-Texan Heritage is being lost at an *
* astounding rate, as this story demonstrates. Please help get *
* your area German-Texan subjects recorded and included in Vol *
* II of the Registry. Send to: 2222 Cherry Ln., Pasadena, Tx. *
* 7750-4043. (for more Registry information see elsewhere in *
* Journal) *

PEOPLE

A LIFETIME OF LOVE



Asta Grona is German. She fondly remembers a childhood of German Christmas cookies and Easter "Kummeleier." She even remembers summer days spent studying German. It was at one German Spelling Bee that Asta self-consciously recalls how she spelled "vogel" incorrectly with an "f" instead of a "v."

But being German to Asta is more than cookies and memories. It is more than an interest in a disciplined, but very happy lifestyle. Being German is an everyday activity needing study and documentation. So to this purpose of finding and recording the "roots" of her ancestors, Asta Grona has generously contributed to the University of Houston's Institute of Texas German Studies.

(ISB: #15)

(ISB: #29)

TEXAS HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

1985

Touring Texas Heritage GUIDEBOOK

Dedicated To

KARL HOBLITZELLE

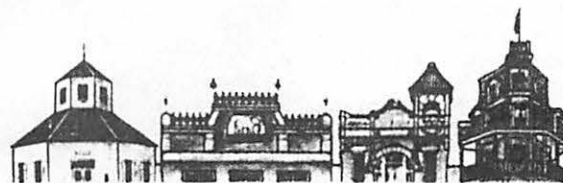


KARL HOBLITZELLE, entrepreneur, businessman, philanthropist, civic giant.

In 1905 Hoblitzelle founded the Interstate Amusement Company which operated vaudeville theatres in Dallas, Fort Worth, Waco and San Antonio. During the early 20th Century these opera houses were focal points for community life and presented noted speakers, minstrel shows, concerts, melodramas, theatrical reviews, classical drama and comedies. From his start in opera houses, Hoblitzelle moved with the times and became a legend in the fast growing motion picture industry. By 1949 his company owned a chain of more than 170 theatres in 32 cities throughout the state.

His downtown theatre buildings were true show palaces, architectural gems and points of pride to the communities they served. Elaborate facades and decorated interiors rivaled only the Courthouses in magnificence of structure. Many of these landmarks have been preserved and restored as a monument to the aesthetic vision of the man who built them.

Hoblitzelle was intensely interested in the preservation and promotion of Texas' traditions and heritage. He served as Chairman of the 1936 Texas Centennial Celebration and also founded the Hoblitzelle Foundation which has distributed millions of dollars to historical preservation and other worthy causes.



(ISB: #29)

A FOUR-STAR GENERAL from Germany toured Pioneer Memorial Museum and the Admiral Nimitz Museum State Historical Park this past Saturday, April 14, during a short visit here. General Hans-Henning Von Sandrart, the Commander-In-Chief of the Allied Forces in Central Europe, was hosted at Pioneer Museum by Joe Kammlah, executive vice president of the Fredericksburg Chamber of Commerce. While Kammlah presented the general and some of his colleagues traveling with him token pins bearing the city seal as well as Ehrenburgers (honorary citizenship) certificates from the City of Fredericksburg, the general returned the favor by presenting Kammlah with a small, personalized plate signifying the general's command. The general toured here because he wanted to see Texas communities of German origin. —Standard-Radio Post Photo

FREDERICKSBURG STANDARD-RADIO POST, APRIL 18, 1990

MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE



MEMBERS of the American Legion Post 383, and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6113 of Columbus place flags on the graves of deceased veterans each Memorial Day. Ann Derr is shown placing flags on the graves of 1st Lt. Henry G. Schonenberg a veteran of World War II who was killed during the Korean War

and of Francis E. Derr, who served during World War II. Her father, A. D. Voskamp, Sr., a World War I veterans lies nearby. Ann Derr, also a veteran of World War II, who served as an Army Nurse, is a member of both Posts in Columbus.

THE NEW ULM ENTERPRISE THURSDAY, MAY 31, 1990

(ISB: #29)

THE MUENSTER ENTERPRISE - MAY 4, 1990



SIX German exchange students are treated to the Mesquite Rodeo. Pictured with the girls is champion bull rider Don Gay.

Photo courtesy of Charlotte Dangelmayr

German students attend Mesquite Rodeo

The six German Exchange Students who were guests in six homes in Muenster for the past weeks wound up their red-carpet visit with a trip to the Mesquite Rodeo on Saturday, April 21. They attended the 8 p.m. performance accompanied by Bill and Charlotte Dangelmayr; Claude and Mary Bayer and their son Kelly; Leon and Sandra Fuhrmann and their son and daughter Sharon and Richard; and Stevan Nasche.

A shopping trip to a large Western store, Sheplers' of Mesquite, and the students' choice of a dinner of Mexican foods or hamburgers preceded the rodeo.

At the Mesquite Rodeo, the German students were recognized over the PA system. Don Gay, eight times the World Champion Bull Rider, visited with them and all had group pictures made. Later in the evening he surprised them by having a tray of brownies

delivered.

The "Grand Entry" parade lasted 20 minutes, to the delight of the German students, who now believe that there are real cowboys in Texas. Several admitted they thought "cowboys just dressed up in costumes for tourists."

Sunday evening, April 22, a "going-away party" was held in the home of the Angelo Nasche family, with a covered dish dinner attended by all the host families. After games of basketball and volleyball the students voiced their last requests, "a return to the Dangelmayr lighted arena for horseback riding."

They left for Muenster on Monday, April 23 at noon, and after a delay of several hours, departed from DFW at 4:50 p.m. They arrived in Frankfurt, Germany Tuesday afternoon. Some were met by parents and some continued to more distant homes.

(ISB: #2)



GTHS AWARD GIVEN TO FRANCINE HARTMAN

In its annual Awards Day ceremony of the School of Liberal Arts of Southwest Texas State University, San Marcos, on Friday, April 20, 1990, a copy of Bieseles' The History of the German Settlements of Texas was awarded to Francine D. Hartman, a French and German major at the university.

Ms. Hartman has maintained a 4.0 (A) average in all academic work at SWTSU. She attended the Sprachen- und Dolmetscher-Institut München and is a certified translator of legal and business documents. In addition, she worked as a multilingual reservation agent for Lufthansa German Airlines in Munich. While at SWTSU, Ms. Hartman has been an Instructional Assistant in both French and German in the Modern Language Department. She has also taught in Palo Alto, California, in the Münchner Volkshochschule and in the Mandl Institute of Foreign Languages in Vienna, Austria. She has been on the Dean's List every semester since her entrance at SWTSU and has been selected for "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges, 1990."

The GTHS award was presented to Ms. Hartman by Dr. Dona Reeves-Marquardt, Treasurer of GTHS, along with Dr. Robert Fischer, Chairman of the Department of Modern Languages, and Dr. G. Jack Gravitt, Dean of the School of Liberal Arts.

Ms. Hartman will receive a BA degree in December, 1990, after a semester of student teaching in the Eanes ISD, Austin. Her goal is to become a teacher at the secondary level, in the fields of French and German, where, she states, she "can certainly use the Bieseles book."

GTHS congratulates Ms. Hartman and extends best wishes for her success.

(ISB: #20)



Picture courtesy of University News Service, Don Anders
Left to right, G. Jack Gravitt, Dean of Liberal Arts, Dona Reeves-Marquardt, Professor of German, Francine D. Hartman, and Robert Fischer, Chairman, Modern language Department, Southwest Texas State University

German native regrets family's life of misery

By KIM COBB
Houston Chronicle

11/10/89

Hilda Graeter's heart swelled when she heard that the East German border was finally being opened. She only wished that her parents had lived long enough to experience it.

A longtime Houston resident, Graeter talks now about Germany and World War II as though it were only yesterday. But her childhood in what became East Germany was a lifetime ago.

"I was born and raised in East Germany, but I left in 1941 and I have never returned to live there," Graeter said. "I last visited in 1962 when my mother died."

Graeter was living with her parents in Cottbus, about 85 miles southeast of Berlin, in April 1941 when she was "drafted" into the German Civil Service. She was only 17, and was ordered to Poland, though her father was loath to let her go.

It was her civil service during the war which separated her from her family and eventually resulted in a life in the West. At the end of the war, she was interned for more than a year by the British and was not able to contact her parents until April 1946.

But by then, Germany had been divided into control sectors, and Graeter's family was in the Soviet sector.

"They said, 'please do not come.

The conditions are so awful, please don't come and share our misery. Build a new life in West Germany.'

"Since I have children of my own, now, I know what this must have meant to them," Graeter said.

She took their advice, and was lucky enough to find a job with the new democratic German government. She first went back to visit her parents in 1948, at a time when it was still easy to pass between the two countries.

"Things started really to build up in West Germany, and the discrepancy between the two countries became more and more obvious," Graeter said.

At the end of 1953, she immigrated to the United States to marry. The new couple lived in New York for a short time, and then moved to Houston. Graeter soon went to work for the German Consulate here — a job she was to keep for 32 years.

She and her husband made a trip back to West Germany in 1958, and Graeter's parents came out for a brief visit. It was not until 1963 — after the Berlin Wall was built — that Graeter went back into East Germany herself.

"Oh, that was kind of a shocking experience," Graeter remembered.

"After 14 years, I had never seen the rest of my relatives and had never seen my friends again.

"I think I cried a lot during that period."

Life had been so cruel to the people she left behind.

"The West Germans had not worked as hard, and they had so many good things," Graeter said. "My cousin waited seven years for a car."

Graeter's father died in 1968, and her mother in 1982. Neither ever really entertained the notion of leaving.

"My father was too old," Graeter said. "My family had always been in our hometown for generations. We had no one in the West."

When her mother died, the break with the East was really complete.

"I have relatives, but they were not allowed to write me," Graeter said. "They could not have any Western contact. So I wrote letters, expecting them not to reply."

She did exchange letters with a few friends of her mother. "They're old ladies, so they don't have anything to be afraid of," Graeter said.

She's watching the news with more than interest, and can't wait to make the journey back. And she hopes that her homeland will become a place where people will want — and be allowed — to return.

"I expect that probably within a year a lot of the people who are just now leaving everything behind, if they don't find work and adequate housing, they will probably go back."

It would be smart of the East German government to allow them to return, unhindered, she said.

"They cannot all run away."



John Davenport / Chronicle

Hilda Graeter shows wedding picture of parents, surrounded by family. Her parents died in East Germany.

(ISB: #27)

The Houston Post/Sunday, June 3, 1990

German immigrants were eager to jump into city's melting pot

This is the first in a series on the Houston compatriots of the six foreign nations to be represented at the 1990 Economic Summit July 9-11. Today: West Germany.

BY RAEQUEL ROBERTS
OF THE HOUSTON POST STAFF

When a German living in Houston gets a hankering (make that *lust auf*) for a slice of *schwarzbrot* (black bread), he doesn't head to his neighborhood German bakery.

He goes to the Fiesta Mart.

When he wants a bottle of authentic German beer, he goes to Whole Foods Market.

With the 1990 Economic Summit about a month away, there's been much talk about the world coming to Houston.

What few may realize, however, is this city has its own international flavor — a

flavor distilled over decades of foreign immigration to Houston.

This region of Texas is rich with German heritage in Fredericksburg, New Braunfels and other towns founded by German settlers in the 1800s, but some consider Houston a bit of a wasteland when it

comes to authentic German amenities. Except, of course, for Mercedes and BMW dealerships.

Most Germans can name only one or two German restaurants in town, and those they note offer up a menu of stereotypical Ger-

man fare — sauerkraut, sauerbraten and Wiener schnitzel — which real Germans rarely eat. German pubs, they add, are non-existent.

Still, they insist, Houston is a great place for Germans to live and do business.

Most say they feel very much at home in the Lone Star state's largest city.

"My time here has been very rewarding both professionally and personally," said Manfred Gransfeld, managing director of the German American Chamber of Commerce and a Houston resident for five years. "And besides, I'm not here to sample German cuisine, I'd rather try the vast array of foreign cuisines you find in this city."

Peter Maier-Oswald, the consul general of the Federal Republic of Germany and a native of Munich, likes Houston so much that he's stayed one year longer than the normal three-year tenure for a German consul general.

"I like the culture in this city," he said. "In the past four years alone you have had a number of cultural developments . . . the Menil, the new opera building (the Wortham Center). You also have many fine arts galleries."

Maier-Oswald added that the heat and humidity can be a problem at times.

"But, then, you've invented air conditioning for that," he said.

Peter Reitz, director of the Goethe-Institut Houston and a resident since 1988, said, "If you want to stay German you might find it easier to live in New York or San Francisco where there is more of a street life. But we Germans have this desire to assimilate quickly into an environment. It is not difficult to live in Houston."

The word assimilate comes up often when talking to Germans living in Houston. Most will tell you that while they know other Germans in the city, they are not a particularly close-knit group, nor do they live in a specific part of town.

"Germans don't seem to get together as often as other ethnic groups," says Gransfeld. "We tend to be much more individualistic. We try to blend in because we feel that is the best approach to living in a foreign country."

"But that doesn't make us any less German."

The vast size of Houston may also have something to do with a lack of a strong camaraderie among Germans, said Liselotte Babin, who is both the editor of *Deutsche Welt* — U.S.A., a local German-English newspaper, and host of *Musical Trot with Liselotte*, a German radio program on KPFT.

She noted, however, that for Germans who do want to mix with other Germans there are several singing groups and a soccer club in the city that are very active.

The Goethe-Institut Houston, which is part of an international organization to promote German language and culture abroad, also sponsors events of interest to Germans and maintains an extensive German library.

Stefan Gallon, the German deputy consul general, said it's difficult to get an exact figure on the number of Germans living in Houston because they aren't required to report to the consulate office. "We estimate that there are approximately 3,000 in Houston," he says. "Many are here for business reasons, some are married to Americans, some are students."

Gunter K. von Noorden, a professor of ophthalmology at Baylor College of Medicine, came to the United States after World War II. Before moving to Houston 17 years ago he lived in several cities including Cleveland and Baltimore.

THE HOUSTON SUMMIT



COMMUNITIES



Ira Strickstein/The Houston Post

Liselotte Babin plays German music on KPFT radio.

IMMIGRANTS: Germans eager to jump into city's melting pot

"I have found that if you keep an open mind you get the best of what a city has to offer," said von Noorden. "And Houston is a place of tremendous dynamic growth. It is really a rather cosmopolitan place to live."

Despite Houston being a sophisticated city, von Noorden said he's still confronted by an occasional stereotype.

"The German restaurants here, for example, perpetuate the idea that we eat the same heavy foods that we ate 100 years ago," he said. "You don't find sauerkraut on the menus in Germany. I wouldn't order it even if it was."

Martina Crevecoeur, a graduate student in the German department at the University of Houston, agreed. "Yes, you sometimes hear comments about how Germans are always organized and how we work a lot. But then Germans have stereotypes of Texas, too, such as you are all cowboys like on Dallas."

One of the Goethe-Institut's goals, Reitz explained, is to counter these stereotypes of Germans... "that we all wear lederhosen, eat sauerkraut everyday and yodel," he said with a chuckle.

This mission got easier, he added, when the Berlin Wall came down last November. "People have a much better idea of what Germany is since that happened," he said. "They seem more interested in what's going on in our country."

Like other Germans living in the United States, von Noorden, who was born in Berlin, is asked frequently these days about how he feels about East and West Germany being united. Like most, he answers that he's excited about the prospect. He also says that any fear of German fascism rising from a united Germany is unjustified.

"Germany has changed enormously in the last 40 years," he said. "There is less interest in nationalism. The German people have been exemplary in their practice of democracy."

Babin agreed. "There is no need to be concerned about a unified Germany," she said. "Germany is totally different from what it was back then."

Babin, an East German native who fled to this country in 1955, notes that the word "reunification" is an incorrect term to use when referring to the current situation in Germany. "Reunification implies that all of the country will be reunited," she explained. "If East and West are united, Germany will only be about two-thirds the size it was before the war."

Because of their country's past, Babin added, most Germans are reluctant to stand out in public — a fact that becomes evident when you ask local Germans to name prominent countrymen living in Houston.

The few bold-faced types people name include Christoph Eschenbach, conductor of the Houston Symphony Orchestra; Philipp von Hardenberg, general manager of the Ritz-Carlton hotel; Wolf Hengst, vice president of operations for the Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts; and Mike Steinmann, owner of such restaurants as the Mansion on Waugh Drive and the Rose on Richmond.

Von Hardenberg, a native of Hamburg, said he's found that Houstonians are very friendly toward Germans.

"Because of our history (World War I and II) some people in this country are cautious about speaking to you, but not in Houston," he said. "This community is very open and accepting... wherever you come from."

(ISB: #27 & #15)

The Houston Post/Sunday, June 3, 1990

GERMANS IN HOUSTON



Total in Houston:
Approximately 3,000

Concentration:
Scattered throughout Houston.

Favorite grocery stores:
Fiesta Mart, Whole Foods Market.

Favorite restaurants:
Prefer a variety of cuisines.
Old Heidelberg for German draft beer.

Favorite things about Houston:
Friendly people, downtown Houston architecture, cultural arts, wide open spaces.

Prominent people:
Christoph Eschenbach, conductor of the Houston Symphony Orchestra; Peter Maier-Oswald, the German consul general in Houston; Philipp von Hardenberg, general manager of the Ritz-Carlton; Wolf Hengst, vice president of operations for the Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts; and Mike Steinmann, club and restaurant owner.

DEUTSCHE WELT - U.S.A.
NINTH YEAR

Publisher
Liselotte Babin

Listen to "Musical Trot with Liselott" "
Sundays 11 am - 1 pm
90.1 FM KPFT

Pastor to spend three-month sabbatical in Germany



Brenham Banner-Press June 3, 1990

By JAMES A. JOHNSON
Staff Reporter

The Rev. Glen Schoeneberg, pastor of St. John's United Church of Christ in Burton, will soon be packing his bags for Germany after being granted a three-month sabbatical from his church following nine years of service.

Described as "a time of renewal," Schoeneberg's sabbatical will make one of his dreams a reality when he ventures to Germany on June 20 for a trip he anticipates to be an educational one.

"My goal is to learn the German language well enough to speak it in my sermons within the next couple of years," he said. "I'm particularly interested in the church life there and I'm anxious to see how their churches are different from ours."

Schoeneberg, along with his wife and two children, plans to spend six weeks of his trip with German families in Jalnich, West Germany. While there, he said he intends to attend their events, tour their country and witness their small-town lifestyle.

Working in a church with a predominately German membership motivated Schoeneberg to choose Germany as his destination, he said.

"I felt it would enrich me to learn the (German) background," he said. "It will give me more perspective."

Schoeneberg said his church will be well-served during his absence.

Paul Bauch, a seminary student from St. Louis who is licensed by the Brazos Association, will

assume pastoral duties until Schoeneberg returns.

Schoeneberg's church will continue to pay him his salary while he is away although he will pay for the trip itself. He anticipates the total cost to be approximately \$10,000 — an amount he and his family have saved since the time the trip was in the formative stage about two years ago.

The church will also pay Bauch for ministering in his absence, he said.

The transition, he said, should be as good for the church as it will be for himself — a time of renewal for everyone to be exposed to new educational experiences.

"It looks to be something that will be mutually enriching," he added.

The sabbatical, Schoeneberg said, was offered by his church as an incentive to preach in residence for five or more years.

"They (church members) have been very good about the whole thing," he explained. "It's going to allow the church to become renewed like I will."

Establishing relationships is another of his goals.

The trip will enable him to visit Rehburg, West Germany. Two months ago, students from that German city stayed with families in Rehburg, Texas as part of an exchange program of the sister cities.

"One of my real hopes is to establish some good relationships there because so much good stuff came out of their recent visit," he explained. "A number of people have already given me phone numbers and told me to look them up if I need anything."

Other European cities Schoeneberg plans to tour include Frankfurt, Munich, Venice, Paris and Vienna.

He added that 20 of his vacation days have not been accounted for, but he is not in any hurry to make too many plans.

"We're staying real loose schedule-wise," he said.

Schoeneberg looks forward to experiencing new cultures and sharing those experiences with his family.

September 1 is his tentative return date.

With any luck, he could be preaching that German sermon he has long hoped for.

GERMANS IN DEWITT CO.

Patsy Goebel has become the Chairperson of the DeWitt County Historical Commission. That organization is in the process of doing a history of DeWitt County. MS. Goebel says there are a number of German related categories including several communities in DeWitt County that are of German origin.

The commission has a collection of pictures of old brass bands from the German communities. Also there are five German Shooting Club buildings still in existence in the County. It is interesting to find that a number of these old buildings are still used in the various communities as old dance halls and some are still maintained by the shooting clubs. (see related story elsewhere in JOURNAL)

If anyone has information related to the history of Germans in DeWitt County you are encouraged to share the material with the DeWitt County Historical Commission c/o:

Patsy Goebel (ISB: #8)
1213 McArthur
Cuero, Texas 77954



May 12, 1990 *El Campo Leader-News*

L-N Photo by Dickson Musslewhite



German students take first

German Winners

ECHS winners in the the Texas State German Contest are pictured from left to right, front row: Clint Bodungen, Lee Wilbeck, Rachelle Franke, Jennifer Dluhos, Brenna Hunter, Colleen Popp, Cheryl Egmon, Kim Kacal; back row, left to right: Michelle Kunz, Krista Miller, Janet Marek, Amy Wied, Caroline Yates, and Donald Egmon.

(ISB: #24)

El Campo High School received three first-place awards and three second-place awards in the Texas State German Contest, and, according to German Instructor Paul Soechting, finished seventh overall in the second division of the contest.

El Campo finished seventh in the second division, which included any school with an enrollment of less than 1,900 students, despite having an enroll-

ment of 897 students, less than half of the cut-off line.

First-place winners for El Campo were Kim Kacal in Poetry Memory II, and the Skit I team and Skit II teams. Kacal was also named best actress in the Skit II competition, in addition to receiving a second-place award with Cheryl Berglund in Duet Acting. Greg Moon received the award for best actor in the Skit I competition.

El Campo also received a second place in Folk Dance and Prose Memory I, in which Cheryl Egmon brought home a red ribbon.

Besides Moon, members of the Skit I team are as follows: Jeff Woodyard, Brian Krpec, Lance Speck, Clifton Bodungen, Christy Naiser and Donald Oldag. The Skit II team included Kacal, Berglund and Egmon.



25 La Grange German Club Members Compete At State

The La Grange High School German Club participated in the German State Competition at the University of Texas at Austin on Saturday, April 21. Twenty-five members participated in various cultural, literary and musical events.

Poetry events included Angela Woodward, third place, poetry reading II; May Lochr, seventh place, poetry reading advanced; Wyatt Hassel, poetry reading II and Christy Pyburn, poetry memory I.

Other speaking event participants included Jason Hobratschk, first place, directed dialogue I; Angela Woodward, sixth place, directed dialogue II; and Kim Master, seventh

place, extemporaneous speaking. The advanced level puppet show also placed fifth at state competition. Puppet show participants included Vicki Holub, May Lochr, Jennifer Marburger and Susan McCullough.

Cultural event participants included Jarrett Jecmenek and Billy Behler, fifth place, T-shirt design; Jennifer Lehmann and Kim Masters, first place, research paper on the Serbin Community; Angela Woodward, Wendy Brandt, Jennifer Schultze, Libe Goad and Andrea Ortlepp, fifth place, gingerbread house; and Christy Citzler and Jennifer Lehmann, sixth place, poster design.

The La Grange High School German Club folkdancers and polka band also participated and both placed third in state competition. Folk dancers included Dawn Halpain, Vicki Holub, Aaron Kuntschik, Don Lehmann, May Lochr, Toby Lochr, Kim Masters, Susan McCullough, Rodney Muras, and Andrea Ortlepp. Polka band members included Steven Brandt, Gilbert Drab, Jason Hobratschk, John Huenefeld, Rusty Keeney, Aaron Kuntschik, May Lochr, Toby Lochr, Jennifer Marburger, Tracy Moretz and Rodney Muras.

(ISB: #22)

May 1, 1990 THE FAYETTE COUNTY RECORD

GENERAL INFORMATION

FOLK ART

-Handmade artistic & decorative creations for daily use of the common people (Volk)

-from German Folk Art
by E. Schlee



Stoneware Plate with salt & pepper glaze (18c.)
-from Westerwald

NASSAU FARM

The first purchase made in Texas by the Adelsverein was a league of land in Fayette County which they developed into a working plantation.

Daphne Garrett has been researching the Nassau Farm for ten years, and is in the process of writing a history. She plans to publish the history in 1992, the 150 Anniversary of the founding of the Adelsverein.

Daphne will present a brief overview at the 1990 GTHS meeting in Brenham.

(ISB: #7)

THE ELDERHOSTEL PROGRAM ON GERMAN TEXANA

The Elderhostel activities are probably best known as world-wide programs of study and travel for senior citizens. As such they seem rather distant and farfetched, but actually they come very close to us at home. A good example is the Texas Tech University campus at Junction, Texas, where the participants live for a week in the camp facilities and participate in the activities presented there.

The 1990 offerings included courses and field trips on the German-Texan heritage. Dr. Gilbert Jordan of Austin presented the German Texana lectures and accompanied the field trips to Fredericksburg and to Mason County. Dr. Jordan gave courses and lectures on "German Texana," "The German Hill Country of Texas," and "German settlers in the state."

Dr. Jordan is the author of several books on the German heritage in Texas, such as: Yesterday in the Texas Hill Country (Texas A&M University Press, 1979). Ernst and Lisette Jordan: German Pioneers in Texas (coauthor with Dr. Terry G. Jordan, von Boeckmann Jones Co., 1971), German Texana (Eakin Press, 1980), and Faces of Texas (Eakin Press, 1983). (ISB: #14)

The Dallas Morning News

Sunday, February 25, 1990

ALMANAC FACTS

(ISB: #28)

From the pages of the 1990-91 Texas Almanac

■ One factor that spurred German immigration into Central Texas in the 1840s was a letter written to a friend in Germany by immigrant Friedrich Ernst. Mr. Ernst, who had settled on Mill Creek in present-day Austin County, described Texas in terms that would do justice to a modern advertising copywriter. He wrote of meadows and valleys, fertile soil and mild winters. He listed the wild fruits and nuts hanging from the trees just waiting to be picked. He enumerated the wild game that could be found, and he waxed eloquent about the meadows spangled with wildflowers. In a final sales pitch, he added, "Scarcely three months' work a year. No need for money, free exercise of religion and the best market for all products at the Mexican harbors." Mr. Ernst's letter was published all over Germany, feeding the growing fascination with Texas and encouraging Germans who were already dissatisfied with conditions in their home country to move to this glow-

ingly described land of milk and honey.

■ The number of oil rigs actually making holes dropped from a high of 1,317 in 1981 to 850 in 1984 and to 277 in 1988.

■ The state seal consists of a star of five points, encircled by olive and live oak branches and the words "The State of Texas." It is a slight modification of the Great Seal of the Republic of Texas, adopted by the Congress of the Republic on Dec. 10, 1836, and readopted with modifications in 1839.

Do you have a question about Texas? Send to:

Texas Almanac
Box 655237

Communications Center
Dallas, Texas 75265

The 1990-91 Texas Almanac is in bookstores and also is available from the Texas Monthly Press (P.O. Box 1569, Austin, Texas 78767. Phone 1-800-288-3288).

Mike Kingston, editor



GERMAN FOLK ART

Painted Wardrobe

Door Panel

-from Baden

(ISB: #29)

MEMBER REQUESTS

Quilt historian, Carol Jenker, is seeking information about German-Texan quilts and their origins. A history about their makers is also being sought. If you have any information regarding this or have questions contact: Carol Jenker, 311 W. 6th, Alice, TX 78332 (512-664-7459)

The Week in Germany May 11 ' 89

On Wings of Fantasy: "Americanisms" in the German Language

It has always been true that languages reflect cultural influences by changing and by absorbing words from other languages, and modern German is no exception to the rule. However, a number of voices have now been raised in the Federal Republic to protest what is seen as an unnecessarily strong influx of American English into modern spoken German, according to an article in the May 7 issue of the news magazine *Der Spiegel*. This "Americanization" of German can be seen in many areas, among them economics, technology, the media and sports. But it is the development of *Neu-Deutsch* in advertising that has roused the ire of some West Germans, who do not always understand what it is that they are consuming.

The *Spiegel* article describes the experience of a linguist from the University of Paderborn (North Rhine-Westphalia), who is comfortable with academic English but stands helpless before the department store clerk offering him a choice of "dress-shirt," "city-shirt" or "leisure-shirt." The makers of men's socks promise that the wearer will soar "on wings of fantasy." Customers in an ice-cream parlor point to what they want, because they cannot pronounce "candied black cherry" or "Swiss almond choc." And shoppers in a supermarket in Mainz called for a boycott of wares with English-language packaging, saying that they wanted to be able to read the labels.

The Union of Federal Railway Employees protested recently against what it called the "obsession with foreign words" on the part of the railway administration. They succeeded in forcing the railway to return to the German terms for bookkeeping (it had been changed to "Cash-Management") and refunds (it had been "After-Sales-Service").

In the German Democratic Republic, advertising is still understated, but the notion that English is "in" has taken hold. Even the Party of Democratic Socialism (PDS), the former Socialist Unity Party (SED), had as a recent campaign slogan for its chairperson, Gregor Gysi, "Don't worry, take it Gysi!"

In a survey carried out by the aforementioned linguist from Paderborn, 700 West Germans were asked to describe the meanings of current English loan words. The responses seemed to indicate a certain confusion. A drop-out was defined as a "coin-operated candy machine," while an underdog was understood to be "an article of girl's underwear." And one respondent, asked to define the word "brainwashing," replied politely that he had never eaten that particular dish.

(ISB: #9)

WORD FOR WORD

EARLY GERMAN COPPER MINERS SOMETIMES CAME ACROSS WHAT SEEMED TO BE A RICH DEPOSIT OF THE METAL



© 1989 H. S. ...

HOWEVER, WHEN THIS ORE WAS SMELTED IT WAS FOUND TO CONTAIN NO COPPER ... AND WAS REGARDED AS USELESS!

IT WAS GIVEN THE NAME KUPFERNICKEL (DEVIL'S COPPER)

WHEN, IN 1750, A NEW METAL WAS FOUND IN THIS "USELESS" ORE THE "KUPFER" WAS DROPPED! TODAY IT'S CALLED NICKEL!



(ISB: #9)

MUENSTER CITY COUNCIL ESTABLISHES COMMISSION FOR PRESERVATION OF GERMAN CULTURE

MAY 11, 1990 - THE MUENSTER ENTERPRISE

The Muenster Centennial Committee met May 3, 1990 for the purpose of disbanding. All financial obligations have been met. We are holding inventory consisting of history books, merchandise, etc. with a wholesale value of \$12,357.50.

Lest the historical enthusiasm generated by the Centennial die for want of support and leadership, the Centennial Committee in disbanding offers the following recommendations to the City Council.

(ISB: #2)

A. Form a Muenster Historical Commission to be governed by a Board of Directors consisting of 5 members.

B. The Function of the Historical Commission would be to direct and oversee the operation of the Muenster Museum. To engage in genealogical studies; to identify and designate buildings of significant historical value; to encourage the preservation and perpetuation of our German culture and heritage.

C. Use funds generated by the sale of mentioned merchandise to offset some costs of operating this Commission.

D. Develop a Founders Day to further interest in our German Heritage and Culture.

E. Adopt our Centennial Logo with modification to be used as an identifying symbol of our City.

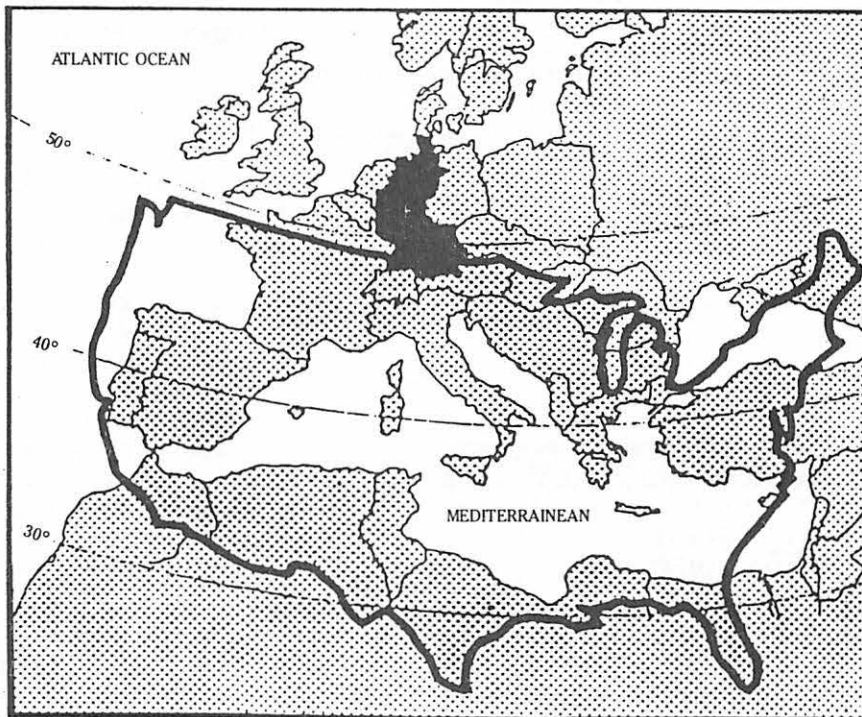
The council accepted all proposals. The five member board will consist of Bertha Hamric, Robert McDaniel, Celine Dittfurth, Juanita Bright, and Bernice Sicking.

Map Commentary

Few immigrants from Germany to the United States had much of an idea about the size of the country to which they were moving. Nor has the relationship been clear over the decades. In fact few gave much thought that in moving to Galveston, Texas they were in a way settling in North Africa. None probably realized that Maine was as far from San Francisco as Moscow from Lisbon. Nor did the immigrants to America write home about the phenomenon of size. One searches in vain for references to distances in books like *Briefe aus Amerika, deutsche Auswanderer schreiben aus der Neuen Welt 1830-1930*, eds. Helbich, Kamphoenfner, Sommer, 1988. Personal and family matters, the realities of making a living, and the perpetual concern about health along with death seem to have dominated the minds and hearts of the immigrants. The perception of space, according to Berlin-born Hildegard B. Johnson in her book *Order Upon the Land* (Oxford University Press, 1976) awaited the arrival of the airplane for the overview needed to appreciate its comparative significance. There is a dissertation lurking in the ways immigrants grew conscious of, and then coped with New World space and its dimensions.

the SGAS *Newsletter* editor

Source: Joachim W. T. Luerman



SGAS AFFILIATES:

German Texan heritage Society
 Department of Modern Languages
 Southwest Texas State University
 San Marcos, Texas 78666

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C. Richard Beam
 406 Spring Drive
 Millersville, PA 17551

SGAS

Established in 1968 and registered in the state of Ohio as a non-profit organization, the Society is an international professional association of individuals and institutions interested in and involved in the field of German-American studies.

PURPOSES

- to engage in and promote interest in the study of the history, linguistics, folklore, genealogy, literature, theater, music, and other creative art forms of the German element in the Americas;
- to publish, produce, and present research findings and educational materials of the areas of interest as a public service;
- to assist researchers, teachers, and students;
- and to improve cross-cultural relations between German-speaking countries and the Americas.



for a time and represented the state in the Senate. He was a friend of Abraham Lincoln and made a considerable contribution to the administrative structure of the country later as Secretary for the Interior. George Hecker, a businessman, was elected the first president of the Heritage Society. He is a direct descendant of the 1848 revolutionary leader Friedrich Hecker. George Hecker said that the Germans had another chance for unity. 140 years after the attempt to create a democratic, unified federal state came to grief. He said: "We wish them every success." There were 240 guests, a third more than expected, at the foundation dinner. The main course was pork loin roast and German mustard sauce, spatzle and green beans.

The guests came from groups which until then had had little to do with one another: a large proportion of the German-American elite in and around St Louis, including members of the Busch family, members of the board of management of the aircraft manufacturers McDonnell Douglas, which has its headquarters in St Louis, and leading self-employed people in the city.

There were also representatives from traditional German-American societies and representatives from the Jewish community.

The fact that the guests came from various walks of life made the founding dinner a special event. Politicians from the region obviously were aware of this. Senator Christopher Bond turned up along with the Governor of Missouri, John Ashcroft, and members of the House of Representatives.

The Governor made special reference to the contribution German emigrants had made to American history, adding that as no-one could choose his parents, he was himself not of German extraction. He said, however, that he had chosen his wife from a German family.

A few statistics show just how important German-Americans are in American society as a whole. They are the largest ethnic group in the United States: almost a quarter of the 240 million Americans have German ancestors. Among the aims of the new society are the promotion of German-American relations in the broad context of politics, economics and culture, through special functions, exchange programmes and scholarships.

Well to the fore, however, is to strengthen the pride of German-Americans in their origins. The most frequently heard word at the founding dinner was "identity."

These loyal American citizens do not want to be put in a corner any longer, when their historical heritage is concerned. The St Louis society intends to provide an example which could be followed by other cities in the US. Many guests, interested in this development, came from other parts of the country. Among them was Elizabeth Secwold, president of the Deutsch-Amerikanischer National-Kongress, which could function as an umbrella organisation for the establishment of other societies.

Ambassador Jürgen Rühfus also spoke of further plans, including talks with Milwaukee, Dallas and San Diego. "I would very much like to encourage the setting up of such societies," the ambassador said. "The government and the embassy would give all necessary assistance." But this commitment extended, however, only to the immediate future. He said: "These organisations must provide themselves with their own funds. In this respect we can only be seen as catalysts."

Traditional German-American organisations were broken up in the first World War. Washington's war propaganda damned German culture, which amount of lobbying had to be deployed, but since the development has become a special event.

President George Bush went beyond merely formal courtesies and announced that 6 October would be German-American Day in the Rose Garden of the White House.

He took advantage of the occasion to speak publicly for the first time about the East German refugees who were at the time flooding in their thousands into the Federal Republic via Hungary and Czechoslovakia.

The fall of the Berlin Wall a month later started off a wave of sympathy for Germans such as had never happened before.

Even when the tide of this sympathy had ebbed the change of opinion gave German-Americans heart for, and prepared the ground for, the establishment of a German-American Heritage Society in St Louis.

It is no accident that this happened in St Louis, standing on the confluence of the Mississippi and Missouri rivers, which can be regarded as the gateway to the West.

St Louis, in fact, has a long and proud history of German emigrants.

The Busch family with Anheuser-Busch built there the largest brewery in the world, and the family has played an important role in establishing the Heritage Society. The most well-known German-American of the last century, Carl Schurz, worked as an editor in St Louis achieved by German Americans.

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Spirit of St Louis lays a wider groundwork for German-American friendship

CULTURAL DIPLOMACY

(ISB: #4)

For additional information contact Professor Volker K. Schmeissner, (703) 945-6242.

Prof. Alfred Oberberger
German Department
Georgetown University
Washington, D.C. 20057

are pleased to host the 15th Symposium of the Society for German-American Studies. In presenting the Symposium in our Nation's Capital, we shall focus on the dual aspects of German-Americans in greater Washington, D.C., and the impact of German history and German-American relations, past and present, on the United States. However, other papers pertaining to German-American studies are also welcome. Abstracts of scholarly papers should be submitted by October 15, 1990 to:

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the German Heritage Society of Greater Washington, D.C., and
the German Historical Institute

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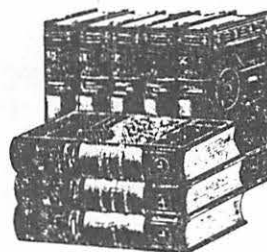
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Kurt Klotzbach

Die Solms-Papiere

Dokumente zur deutschen Kolonisation
 von Texas



Neu

NEU

Am 20. April 1842 gründeten deutsche Adlige den „Verein zum Schutz deutscher Einwanderer in Texas“, kurz „Texas-Verein“ oder auch „Mainzer Adelsverein“ genannt, mit dem Ziel, eine Kolonie in der Neuen Welt zu gründen, ein „deutsches Gemeinwesen von staatenähnlichem Charakter“, um lästige arme Untertanen nutzbringend anzusiedeln und selbst politischen Gewinn und Prestigezuwachs zu erlangen. Noch heute gibt es Siedlungen wie New Braunfels und Fredericksburg in Texas als lebendige Zeugnisse dieser bereits im Kern mißglückten Kolonisation. Das „deutsch-texanische Experiment“ wurde zur Katastrophe für Tausende Auswanderer, die auf den Adelsverein vertraut hatten. Sie mußten für koloniale Illusionen und blanke Inkompetenz teuer bezahlen.

Prinz Carl zu Solms-Braunfels war sicher eine der schillerndsten Persönlichkeiten der Vereinsführung. Als 1. Generalkommissar reiste er 1844 nach Texas, um die Anlage der Kolonie und den Empfang der ersten Siedlergruppen vorzubereiten. Über diesen Aufenthalt und seine Arbeit verfaßte er 11 schriftliche Berichte an die Vereinszentrale in Wiesbaden, in denen das Leben in Texas und die Wirrnisse, in die der Adelsverein in der texanischen Frontier-Wildnis schlitterte, plastisch deutlich werden. Einen 12. Bericht erstattete er mündlich nach seiner Rückkehr 1845 in Wiesbaden. - Die Originalberichte befanden sich bis zum Ende des 2. Weltkriegs im Archiv von Schloß Braunfels. Seitdem sind sie verschwunden. Vermutlich wurden sie in die USA verkauft.

Auf seinen Studienreisen durch Texas stieß **Kurt Klotzbach**, bekannt durch zahlreiche Veröffentlichungen in Deutsch und Englisch über die deutschen Siedler in Texas, auf eine Publikation der Berichte in der „Neu-Braunfelser Zeitung“ im Jahre 1916. 1966 erhielt er eine englische Fassung der Berichte. Nach intensiven Recherchen begann er mit einer sorgfältigen Rückübersetzung, unter Hinzuziehung der Veröffentlichung von 1916. Jetzt liegt eine der fraglos bedeutendsten Quellen für die Geschichte des deutschen Kolonisationsversuchs in Texas, die lange vergessen, zumindest kaum bekannt war, wieder vor. Erstmals vollständig in deutscher Sprache. Quellendokumente aus der Feder eines Mannes, der eines der bemerkenswertesten Kapitel der Geschichte von Texas aktiv mitgestaltet hat. Im Anhang wird zudem der ebenso seltene Bericht seines Nachfolgers, des **Baron Otfried von Meusebach** veröffentlicht, den dieser 1893 vor einem texanischen Gericht gab.

Aus dem Inhalt: Texas, Land zwischen gestern u. morgen - Vorgeschichte - Die Indianer von Texas - Austins erste Kolonie - Das deutsch-texanische Experiment - Friedrich Ernst, Vater der deutschen Immigration - Der Adelsverein - **DIE SOLMS-PAPIERE:** 12 Berichte zwischen dem 15. Juni 1844 und dem 28. Juni 1845 im Wortlaut - Otfried von Meusebach - Prinz zu Solms-Braunfels - **DAS MEUSEBACH-PROTOKOLL:** Meusebachs gerichtliche Vernehmung 1893 im Wortlaut - Liste der Schiffe mit Einwanderern von Europa nach Texas 1844 - 1947 - Schiffe aus den USA mit deutschen Einwanderern nach Texas 1844 - 1847 - Fritz Goldbeck, der deutsch-texanische Dichter - u. v. m.



1986/87 erschienen diese Berichte im **MAGAZIN FÜR AMERIKANISTIK** und erregten lebhaftes Interesse. Schon damals wurde vielfach der Wunsch geäußert, diese Quelle gebündelt herauszugeben. Dies ist hier nun geschehen, eingebettet in den geschichtlichen Rahmen, ergänzt um weitere, bislang noch nie in Deutsch veröffentlichte Dokumente, umfassend illustriert.

Damit liegt nicht nur ein packender Zeitzeugenbericht über eines der wichtigsten Ereignisse in der deutschen Auswanderungsgeschichte vor, sondern ein Quellenwerk für grundlegende Beschäftigung mit der Thematik.

Mit diesem Band eröffnen wir eine neue Buchreihe, die Akzente setzt! Amerikanische Geschichte - Deutsche Geschichte: Eine schicksalhafte Verbindung!

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 PLEASE NOTE: **GTGS** publications are available for purchase and are listed in the "END OF THE ISSUE ITEMS" section of last JOURNAL.

OF INTEREST TO GENEALOGISTS--

The recent publication of Rev. John Kilian's **BAPTISM RECORDS OF ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, SERBIN, 1854-1883**, edited and translated by Joseph Wilson, and published under the auspices of St. Paul's by the Southern Historical Press, Easley, S.C., 1985, is available for sale.

Detailed entries, beginning at Hamburg and continuing in Texas until 1883, include births, deaths and baptisms of 928 children, including additional information such as father's name, occupation, place of residence, mother's first, last and maiden name, former residence in Germany number of the marriage. Baptismal witnesses are identified with name, occupation, residence, some witnesses include husband's or father's name occupation and residence. Pastor Kilian served Serbin and other communities of Wends and Germans in Austin and Fayette counties in later years.

The records covering 29 years are in the same format as the original 320 pages in the Church records. Dr. Wilson has included an informative introduction and annotated index of proper names and place names providing the reader with easy access to all Kilian's entries. The book is an invaluable source for genealogists an aid to historians, and an enlightening supplement to the U.S. Census Records. Copies may be ordered from:

**Texas Wendish Heritage Museum
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 Giddings, Texas 78942**

cost is \$15.98 incl tax
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Ann Lindemann, GTGS President, remarked upon reading the book, that it helped explain a lot of things she grew up with.

If you would like a copy, please order from German-Texan Market Place, 2116 Lynnbrook Dr., Austin, TX 78748. Price: \$9.50 - includes postage and tax.



Muenster, Texas, A Centennial History

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Phone (.....)

(ISB: #21)

Der zerstraute Professor steht einen Mann auf sich zukommen: „Ja, Brummanabell Haben Sie sich aber verändert. Man kennt Sie ja kaum wie derl Graue Haare haben Sie bekommen und sich einen Bart zugelagt, und dicker sind Sie auch geworden!“
„Aber“, sagt der Mann, „ich helde gar nicht Brummanabell“, „Wie“, sagt der Professor kopfschüttelnd, „Brummanabell heißen Sie auch nicht mehr?“

Verändert

„Zehntausend Mark“, sagt die „Jessas, zehntausend Mark! Und mein Waschl, der Depp, ist auf die Seite gesprungen!“

Belm Holzfüllen schlägt eine Tanne unverehens um und erschlägt einen der beiden Fäller, wäh- rend der andere noch schnell zur Seite springen konnte. Ein paar Tage darauf fragt die Frau des Überlebenden die Witwe des Verunglückten: „Du Zenzi, was hast du denn von der Verrie- rung gekriegt?“

So ein Trell!

„Du Mutti“, sagt der kleine Peter, „ich weiß schon, was ich dir zum Geburts- tag schenken werde.“ - „Was denn, Pe- terchen?“ - „Einen neuen Frisier- spiegel.“ - „Aber ich habe doch schon einen.“ - „Gehabt, Mutti, gehabt.“

Nach der Scheidung sagte...
...der Pilot: „Schon die Hochzeit war die reinste Notlandung!“
...die Beamtin: „Immer nur Sex nach Vorschrift?“
...der Alkoholiker: „Sie war mir zu nüchtern!“
...die Lehrerin: „Alles wollte er dreimal wiederholt haben!“
...der Richter: „Bewährung ver- wirkt- Verfahren eingestellt!“
...die Schiedsrichterin: „Spiel= abbruch nach der ersten Halbzeit!“
...der Chemiker: „Wir sind nie übers Versuchsstadium hinaus= gekommen!“
...die Zahnärztin: „Er hat mir zuviel woanders gebohrt!“
...der Elektriker: „Einfach keine Spannung mehr!“
...die Sprechstundenhilfe: „Der nächste bitte!“
Aus "AMERIKA WOCH" *

Unordnung ist ein Zeichen von Schwäche. Wir Genies überblicken das Chaos.
Wer schon Hans heiß, sollte mit Nachnamen nicht Würst heißen.
Nieder mit der Frühjahrsnudigkeit, es lebe der Winter- schal.
Mich kann man nicht beschreiben, mich muß man erheben.
Der Eber ist ein eiles Ferkel.
Lieber ein Hoch auf dem gelben Wagen als ein Teil Über Heigland.
Lieber n Glas Dortmund als ne Wanne Eichel.
Hahni Kohl ist der Erfinder des lachenden Gemüses.
Lieber Kies in der Tasche als Sand im Getreide.
Marmor, Stein und Eisen bricht, doch Beton der bröckelt nicht.
Aus: Schiller-Sprüche, Heyne Verlag, München

Dumme Sprüche!
Auch Stenotypistinnen lieben keine ka- putten Typen.
Den Fettsten beißen die Pfunde.
Mit genügend Kohle kann man eine ganze Zeche bezahlen.
Wer genügend Moos hat, braucht nicht im Wald zu schlafen.
Unter Skatspielern findet man oft reizende Damen.
Auch unter Kleingärtnern gibt es normal- wüchsige Menschen.

Er hatte gerade deshalb so viel Dreck am Stecken, weil er mit allen Wassern gewaschen war.
Nicht jeder ist ein Denker, dem etwas einfällt.
Weil sie hinterm Mond sind, glauben manche, was in den Sternen steht.
Wer wenig Vermögen hat, sollte wenig- stens viel Stieh-Vermögen haben.

OLD GERMAN SAYING: "All of our visitors bring us happiness--some when they come, some when they leave."

from

Unser Kleines Blatt
German Society of the Coastal Bend

(ISB: #3)

Wer den Mund zu voll nimmt, steht oft mit leeren Händen da.

Wenn Nullen sich aufblähen, platzen sie.

Wer am Ende ist, kann von vorne anfangen.

Wenn ich du wäre, wäre ich lieber ich.

"Wie schmeckt Ihnen der Braten, mein Herr!" - "Er stimmt mich traurig. Das Tier hatte bestimmt eine unglückliche Liebe." - "Wieso?" - "Es ist voller Sehnen!"

Spruch der Woche

Das Alter hat zwei grosse Vorteile: Die Zähne tun nicht mehr weh und man hört nicht mehr all das dumme Zeug, das ringsum gesagt wird. G.B. Shaw

"Du hältst mich wohl für verrückt?"
"Nein! Aber ich kann mich irren."

Es sagte

der kleine Sohn zu seinen Eltern: "Ich will aber kein Brüderchen- noch werde ich mit Euch fertig. (ISB: #21)

Definitionen

DENKMALKUNDE - Ratschlag für unentschlossene Käufer.

EINFALTSPINSEL - Zusammenklappbares Malerutensil.

GEDULD - Wenn man einem Wasserhahn so lange zuredet, bis er kräht.

HAUSHÄLTERIN - Eine Ehefrau, die nach jeder Scheidung das Haus behält.

INTERESSEN - Zwischenmahlzeit.

KÄSEMESSER - Molkerei-Beruf.

OSTERN - Wenn Hasen Eier legen.

PANTOFFELHELD - Ein Mann, der weiß, was seine Frau will.

RADIOWECKER - Frühwarnsystem.

VERSEHEN - Partnerschaft unter Dichtern.

Erklärung

„Papa, warum haben denn die meisten Motorboote weibliche Namen?“

„Weil sie so schwer zu lenken sind, mein Junge.“

GANDHI'S Seven Sins

1. Wealth without work.
2. Pleasure without conscience.
3. Knowledge without character.
4. Commerce without morality.
5. Science without humanity.
6. Worship without sacrifice.
7. Politics without principle.

Torschlußpank

Im wilden Westen wurde ein Zug von Bandiden angehalten. „Boys“, sagte der Boß, „die Frauen werden abgeküßt, die Männer ausgeraubt!“ „Chef“, meinte einer der Bandiden, „schätze, daß es besser ist, nur zu plündern.“ Da mischte sich eine alte Jungfer ein, die unter den Fahrgästen war: „Darüber haben Sie gar nicht zu entscheiden. Was Ihr Chef sagt, das wird gemacht!“

Definition

„Sag mal, Hein, du bist doch immer so klug; was ist eigentlich ein Optimist?“

„Ein Mann, der alles sehr nett und gut findet, bis es ihm selbst einmal passiert.“

Der Denker

„S'is schon meechlich, Bauline, daß es im Himmel scheen is, awer das Bleede is nur, daß mer ersch dood sinn muß, um hinzugommi!“

GENEALOGY

GERMAN TEXANS' GENEALOGY SECTION

Compiled by Theresa Gold Genealogy Editor, 106 Ranchland, San Antonio TX 78213

BITS AND PIECES AND NEWS

Genealogy and Family History Seminar at Brigham Young University, August 8-10 will feature a large number of classes of interest, including a basic program on Germanic genealogical sources to be given by the outstanding authority, Larry O. Jensen. For information, write for a brochure: BYU Annual Genealogy and Family History Seminar, 154 Harman Building, Provo UT 84602.

Genealogical Dictionary of German language terms was to be an ambitious project for Edward Brandt of Minneapolis. Following initial publicity on Mr. Brandt's plans, he discovered that Ernest Thode is nearing completion of such a reference work. Mr. Thode is the author/publisher of the Atlas for Germanic Genealogy and the Address Book for Germanic Genealogy as well as a seller of detailed modern maps of Germany. He can be reached at R.R. 7, Box 306, Kern Rd., Marietta OH 45750 for further information on any of these projects. In this issue, you will find information submitted by Mr. Brandt on the search for descendants of Westphalian families being conducted by Martin Holz.

Soviet-American Genealogical and Archival Service (SAGAS) is progressing well. To update the article on page 58 of our previous issue, we can report that four US delegates met in the USSR in March with representatives of the Moscow Archives Association. The Americans toured central and regional archives in an effort to come to an agreement on the procedure to be used by US researchers. The US's National Archives and Records Service (NARA) volunteers' office in Washington DC will act as clearinghouse for forms requesting information from the Soviet archives and transmitting reports back to the US requestor. Soviet representatives will pay a reciprocal visit to the US in July 1990. Perhaps at that time, final agreements on the establishment of the SAGAS will be signed. (Information from Federation of Genealogical Societies Forum.)

Learn German is the title of an exciting new computer program by Axel Beyreuther that translates English to German, gives verb conjugations and noun declensions, and has vocabulary exercises. The software runs on PC/MS-DOS computers only. This will be of interest to all German-Texans, not only to German-Texan genealogical researchers. Ordinarily priced at \$99.95, the program is available from Immigrant Genealogical Society for a special price of \$60.00 plus \$2.50 postage/handling. For a copy of Joan Lowrey's review of the software appearing in the January 1990 issue of The German Connection and reprinted in Immigrant Genealogical Society's May/June 1990 Newsletter, and an order form, send 25 cents in stamps (to cover cost of duplication) plus a SASE to your Genealogy Editor.

Deutschen Familienarchiv, volumes 1 through 75 are available through the Immigrant Genealogical Society's library. The Society sent us a page with 724 surnames about which material was submitted for publications. These can range from a single paragraph to three volumes of information. In addition there is also an every-surname index. Volunteers at the IGS will check the surname, copy the contents list, and provide an English translation. In the surname index, they can check for the name of a spouse and tell whether that surname is listed within the same section as the requested primary surname. For a fee of \$5.00, they will tell you how many pages of material there might be for copying and whether or not the spouse's surname appears in that section. If you wish to order the materials, the fee is 15 cents per page, plus postage and packaging. For a copy of the flyer listing the 724 surnames covered in Deutschen Familienarchiv, send a 25-cent stamp to cover cost of duplication, plus an SASE to your Genealogy Editor.

Using Surnames to Trace German Origin is the title of a lengthy article by Kevin Tvedt in the German Genealogical Society of America's Bulletin, January/February 1990 issue. The article goes into the history of the development of the Germanic language and its dialects with examples of how changes in word usage and pronunciation affected the development of surnames. This same issue has articles on "Using Collateral Relatives to Locate a 17th-Century German Ancestor," and "German Presbyterians of Paterson, New Jersey," as well as continuing the list of German surnames (beginning with letters S through V) found in the 7th, 8th, and 9th editions of the Genealogical Research Directory, surnames found in the latest issue of Familienkundliche Nachrichten (FANA) (see previous issue of our GTHS Journal, page 59), in addition to book reviews, queries, and lists of new acquisitions for the GGSAA Library. Regular membership is \$18.00 per year. Write to: German Genealogical Society of America, P O Box 291818, Los Angeles CA 90029.

The German Element in Virginia chronicles the early German settlements on the Rappahannock and Rapidan rivers, their general disbursement throughout Virginia, and the eventual concentration of German settlements in the Shenandoah Valley. This re-release of a classic originally published in 1898-1900 is newly indexed and combines two volumes into one volume of 433 pages. It is available for \$26.50 from Clearfield Company, Inc. 200 E. Eager St., Baltimore MD 21202. Add \$2.50 for postage/handling.

FROM OUR MEMBERS

The following section was compiled by your Genealogy Editor from the information received from our members. If you have an interest in any of the families mentioned, write directly to the member. To have your story appear in a future issue, write to your Genealogy Editor Theresa Gold, 106 Ranchland, San Antonio TX 78213. Items are published free of charge for members. For non-members, there is a \$5.00 query fee. Please submit a concise paragraph or two, or simply list the surnames you are researching along with the Texas counties the families settled and the religion they practiced.

If you wish to submit a longer article for publication, please be sure it is camera-ready. The manuscript specifications are published inside the back cover of each issue, but here they are again: We will consider only materials typed, single spaced, on 8 1/2" by 11" white paper, with only 1/4 inch margin on all sides. Remember, your typing must be almost edge-to-edge. Your Genealogy Editor and the Editor-in-Chief evaluate all materials for readership value of both the content and the typed format.

NOTE: Because of concerns as to the length of the Journal, future articles will be limited to two pages only.

Chester Feurbacher 931 E 53rd St., Austin TX 78751 enjoyed the article "In Fashing ist das Leben schön und süß" by Robert H. Thonhoff in our GTHS Journal, Fall, 1989, page 194. The Albert Schroeder mentioned in the story was Chester's uncle by marriage, the husband of his father's sister, Minna Feurbacher Schroeder. Chester sent a page from a family history he compiled in 1976 that states Albert was born in Hamburg, but lived in Taylor, Texas, for 15-16 years, with his sister until her death. Then, he moved to Colton, Texas, where he met Minna. After their marriage, they moved to Karnes City, where they had two daughters and where Minna died of an infection at age 23. After Albert married Charlott Rex, they moved to Fashing where he farmed and built a store. It was Albert who suggested the name "Fashion" for the post office, taken from a can of

tobacco. But, the name somehow was changed to "Fashing," as stated in both Chester's family history and Robert Thonhoff's article. Minna and Albert Schroeder's two daughters were Elsie Emma Minna Schroeder who married Walter Frederick Jonas, and Louise Rose Marie Schroeder who married Herman Otto Kellner. Both lived in Fashing and raised their families there.

Wilbur W. Bandemer 204 Chase Dr., Portland TX 78374 is researching all Bandemers who came to Chicago in 1866-1900 from Kries Lauenburg in Pommern, and from Kries Neustadt and Putzig in West Prussia. Some families moved to Minnesota and to Texas, while others stayed in the Chicago area. Wilbur would appreciate correspondence regarding any Bandemer family.

He is also trying to verify the spelling of his great great grandmother's surname. It was probably one of the following: Pietrasckye, Pebrajohke, Piotroszhka, Piottronzka, Piotruschka, Petraschke. The family was from Kries Lauenburg in Pommern and Kries Neustadt in West Prussia (same as the Bandemers, above). Does anyone know what the name means? Wilbur is also curious as to the different spellings of her surname in church records of her children's baptisms, as well as in records where she was godmother to some nephews and nieces.

Arlene Schwarz Walker P O Box 1117, Mason TX 76856 is checking on Albert Schwarz, born 8 Jan 1872, Kendall County, the first child of Adam and Marie (Ammann) Schwarz. His mother, Marie, was born in San Antonio, the daughter of Christian and Sophia (Meckel) Ammann, but moved to Kendall County at an early age. Albert's father, Adam, was the son of Michael and Anna Margarethe (Hof) Schwarz. The Schwarz family, Michael, his wife, and four sons, Mathias, Carl, Franz, Adam, and one daughter, Margarethe, immigrated to the U.S. in 1854. The problem Arlene is checking concerns the disappearance of Albert in about 1905. He was last heard from while in either Pueblo or Trinidad, Colo. Previously, he had been working on the railroads and had spent some time in New Mexico. In addition to the Hof/Schwarz and Meckel/Ammann families, Arlene is also interested in these: Adolph and (?) (Kruckemeyer) Haas, Herman and Caroline (Leesch) Uecker, Thomas Jefferson and Marget (Eaton) Buckelew, and George Washington and Della (McCarty) Walker.

Bill R. Wittner 1705 Skyline Dr., Russellville AR 72801 is interested in the Wittner family that settled in Austin or Washington county in the 1800s. His primary interest is in Herman Wittner and his son, Caspar. Bill does not yet know if they came directly from Germany to Texas or if they settled on the east coast of the U.S. first. Additional surnames of interest are in the Genealogical Exchange section.

Bessie Bell Star Route, Box 10A, Hill City SD 57745 tells about her ancestors Michael Vetter (b. 1781) and Friedrich Jacob Sattler (b. 1768) who immigrated to Russia from Alsace in the late 1790s and early 1800s. Her grandparents, George and Magdalena (Sattler) Vetter came to the U.S. in the early 1900s and settled in North Dakota. Her other grandparents, Herman and Henrietta (Radmer/Radmenn) Block, came from Germany in 1882, stopping in Wisconsin before settling in Minnesota. Both the Block and Radmer/Radmenn families were from Schleswig-Holstein. Bessie has a book published on the Vettters and Sattlers, but is still seeking families by those names, in addition to other Blocks and Radmanns. If anyone is interested in the book on the Vettters and Sattlers, the cost is \$12.00.

Rev. Msgr. Edward Rabroker Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church, P O Box 608, Granger TX 76530 is a grandson of Theodore Rabroker, founder of Westphalia, Texas. He has collected considerable information on the Rabrokers and has compiled a computerized listing of all the Rabroker descendants, which he shared with his many cousins and with your Genealogy Editor. However, he has not yet found the immigrant family's arrival record in the listings of the Port of New York. He

is always interested in additional research data on the early days of Westphalia in Falls County.

Edith B. Beaird Rt 4, Box T-98, Abilene TX 79601 is researching the Andreas Christian Braune family that arrived at Galveston in 1881 and settled near New Braunfels. Handwritten records in the family indicate that Andreas C. Braune, a widower, married Johanna Memminger on 3 March 1908, after the death of his previous wife, Sophia Elizabeth Bergfeld, in 1906 or 1907. However, the Comal County record of Andreas and Johanna's marriage seems to indicate a marriage on 3 March 1911, as the preprinted form shows the year as "190__" with a "1" handwritten over the "0" and a "1" in the space. Since this disagrees with the handwritten record passed on within the family and also raises a question as to the date of death of the first wife as given in the handwritten family records, we ask if there is a member in the New Braunfels area who would help Edith by checking further to verify the date of this marriage and also hunt for a record of the death of Sophia Elizabeth Bergfeld Braune. Also, the handwritten Braune family records indicate that Andreas married for the third time on 5 Sept 1916, but no bride's name or location is given. Can anyone help with clues?

Col. Charles S. Hoster 1600 S. Eads St., #134 South, Arlington VA 22202 reports he is the world's "youngest" great grandfather (but, he didn't tell his age!). The new arrival, Haleigh Suzanne Hoster, born 3 March 1990, is the 11th generation Hoster in America, based on the 1741 arrival of Johann Wilhelm Hoster. Chuck wonders if there are any other Hoster descendants in the GTHS, as he is thinking of a 250th anniversary Hoster reunion in 1991. Chuck is first vice-president of National Genealogical Society and serves as International Liaison Chairman. See our GTHS Journal, Vol. XI, No. 2, Summer 1989, page 125, for a review of NGS's international liaison services. Chuck also continues to win recipe contests and have his recipes published. He shared with us: "Jet Chili" and "Chuck Hoster's Oyster Supreme."

Edna Felps 3234 Gypsy, San Antonio TX 78228 is searching for the family of John B. Olfers. He arrived at New York on 5 Dec 1857 on the "Louisiana" from the province of Hannover with his mother, Anna Dora Bohlen, his stepfather, H. C. Bohlen, and two stepbrothers. John came to Texas and settled in DeWitt County. It is believed that his mother, stepfather and stepbrothers settled in New York City. Edna would like to correspond with anyone knowing the whereabouts of any of the Bohlen descendants.

Janie Holland 338 Bluebonnet Dr., Granite Shoals TX 78654 is interested in two family groups. The first group is from Erndtebrück and Landsberg. They include Johann Gotlieb Heissig and his wife Maria Charlotte Zedler. They left Landsberg aboard the "Iris" in 1860 to join their three children who had come in the 1850s to DeWitt County. Of these children, the daughter Wilhelmina Heissig, her husband Julius Johann Meyer (from Waldenberg), and their two children came to DeWitt County in 1854. Wilhelmina's daughter, Johanna H. Maria Meyer, born in Landsberg, married Frederick Menn. Frederick was born in Erndtebrück, Westphalia, the son of Johann Heinrich and Marie Elise (Roth) Menn. He, his parents, one brother and two sisters emigrated in 1849, landed at Indianola, and settled at Yorktown, DeWitt County. Janie is interested in knowing more about Johann Gotlieb Heissig, Johann Heinrich Menn, Julius Johann Meyer, Marie Elise Roth, and Maria Charlotte Zedler.

The second family group of interest to Janie include persons from Friedenberg and Franzel (or Franzthal). August Kraege was born in Friedeberg, Province of Brandenburg, the son of a baker. He married Wilhelmina Heinrich at Friedenberg, although she had been born at Franzel (or Franzthal). In 1856, August, Wilhelmina, and their three-month-old son, Fritz, came to Texas and settled in DeWitt County. August's brother, Ferdinand, and his sister Alvina, wife of Rudolf Julius Wilhelm Noster, remained in Germany. In 1867, August, Wilhelmina, and their six children returned to Friedeberg. The children were

dissatisfied there, and the family returned to Texas in 1870. Thus, Janie is interested in the parents of Wilhelmina Heinrich and of August Kraege.

Jon P. Czarowicz 4102 Chestnut, Temple TX 76502 adds to the information submitted on page 62 of our previous issue. John Henry Hempel, Sr. was born on 28 Sept 1836 in Hoof in the province of Hesse and died on 12 Oct 1934 in Bell County, Texas. His father was Johann Hermann Hempel, born 28 Dec 1813 in Elgershausen. He came to Texas in 1852 and had two more children after arrival. He died 7 Sept 1891 at Grassyville, Bastrop County. John Henry Hempel's grandfather was Joahnn Heinrich Hempel, born 5 Nov 1873 in Großenritte. He married Anna Elizabeth Krus in 1885 and died 18 Jan 1862. Anna Elizabeth was born 1 June 1785 and died 12 Dec 1868. All known children of Johann Hermann Hempel were born in Hoof, as far as Jon can tell, with the exception of Henry Christian Hempel and Julia Ann Hempel Kunkel who were born at Pin Oak, Texas. These names, dates, and locations in Germany have been "certified" by a professional researcher.

Patsy Hand 417 Cottonwood St., Victoria TX 77904 recalls her "success" story published in our Fall 1986 issue concerning exciting new family data she received from a Lutheran church in the east German town of Voigtstedt. That new information connected her Rabenaldt family to the nearby village of Wolferstedt. Her contact in Voigtstedt said he would go there at some future time to seek more records, but his situation prevented him from doing so. Patsy again wrote a letter, this time to the Lutheran church in Wolferstedt, and again her letter was given to a member of the church. All she knew at the time was the name Carl Gottfried Christian Rabenaldt (or Rabenald) and the maiden name of his wife, Henriette Caroline Amalie Schmidt. The report she received included three additional generations in the direct line, dates of birth, marriages, and deaths, with additional information such as occupations and exact place of residence. Patsy remarks: "There are wonderful people who will help if we just ask! I never in my wildest imagination expected to be able to trace my German immigrants further back than I have some of my stateside ancestors." She further advises: "Write your letters. You never know what they will bring."

Pat Blanchard 215 Levron St., Houma LA 70360 reports she has moved--again! After staying in the same home for 22 years, her family has now moved twice in two years, the last time to a different house on the same street. She plans to be at the above address for a long time and hopes to get back to her genealogy research and to hear from her correspondents.

Leo J. Dole 685 Fritzler Dr., Saginaw MI 48603 is working on his wife's maternal line stemming from Johann George Moeller who arrived on the "Weser" in 1844 and from Johann Mueller who arrived on the "August Meline" in 1845. Her paternal side stems from Jerome Arnold, an immigrant from Alsace who later resided at 322 Richmond St. in San Antonio. His father and two brothers arrived earlier and settled at Meyersville, but because Jerome was serving an apprenticeship as an engineer, he was unable to accompany them. Jerome's wife was Mary Umscheid, and Leo is presently tracing her family. There were apparently two Umscheid families in San Antonio, according to the census and city directories. Leo has not determined the relationship, if any, between Felix Umscheid and Frank Umscheid, Sr. Although there was a 20-year age difference, they do not appear to be father and son. Leo's name, Dole, has undergone some changes over the years. Originally, in Arft Eifel, Germany, it was Tholl, later listed as Doll, and then Dole, still using the same pronunciation. His immigrant ancestor was Katrina Doll, a widow with four children. She came to New York aboard the "Louis Phillipe" in 1841 and settled in Westphalia, Michigan. The eldest daughter was married and came with her husband, Peter Schaefer, and three children. Although Leo has located other Dolls and Doles in Wisconsin and Pennsylvania, he has been unable to make a family connection to them.

Agnes Forster 107 Emporia #6, San Antonio TX 78209 has information on her great grandparents, Wilhelm and Henryetta (Krauser) Spieckermann who came to Texas in 1871 from Stettin in the province of Pommern. At that time, Wilhelm's parents were living at what was then called Pagel's Settlement at Hallettsville. She is trying to learn the name of Wilhelm's father. Agnes believes Wilhelm was the eldest son, although there were two other sons, Fritz and David, and two married daughters. Wilhelm brought his wife and children to America because he was tired of serving in the German artillery; he had fought in the Austro-Prussian war of 1864 and in the Franco-Prussian war of 1870. The noise of the cannon ruined his hearing. Wilhelm and Henryetta had six children whose descendants may be able to tell more about the Spieckermanns: one son, Albert, and five daughters, Bertha who married Goerge Mayer, Augusta who married Charles Maeker, Louise who married Charles Hojik, Martha who married Alvin Hummel, and Agnes who married Frank Boehm.

Dorothy G. Rothermel 5806 Mavis, Pasadena TX 77505 is looking for more information on her grandmother and great grandmother. Her grandmother was Hulda Wendland who took the name Hinze after her mother, Henrietta, married Herman Hinze, although no evidence has been found of an actual adoption. The mother and daughter came from the province of Posen. Henrietta married Herman Hinze in 1848 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Round Top. Hulda married Paul Noak in 1892, at the same church. But, Dorothy has not found a baptism or confirmation record for Hulda, with the conclusion that she may not have been baptized or confirmed. An aunt related to her that her grandmother attended church services every Sunday, except on Communion Sundays, since she was not permitted to participate. Dorothy has found good records on Herman Hinze. He arrived on 18 Dec 1876 at New Orleans on the ship "Hannover" from Bremen and applied for citizenship in Brenham in 1880, two years after his marriage to Henrietta Wendland. Dorothy found the families in the 1880 and 1900 census. The 1900 census places Hulda and Henrietta's arrival in either 1875 or 1877, but Dorothy has been unable to locate a record of their arrival.

Carla Trum 653 E. 14th St. #5D, New York NY 10009 is searching for descendants of, or any information on, Friedrich W. Scharnberg and his wife, Anna Albrecht of Austin County (Shelby) and Fayette County. Both were born in Germany; he in Mecklenberg and she in Pomerania. They were Lutherans and came to Texas in the 1840-50s through Galveston. Their children were: Anna who married Ferdinand Menking, Adele who married August Heinsohm, Ida who married Gus Giese, Mary who married Albert Heinz, and sons Helmuth, Otto, John, Fred, Hugo and Charles. Carla is a descendant of the son Charles who married Sydney Todd. She would welcome any information on the Scharnberg and/or Albrecht families.

Eugenia Miller 1632 Norfolk St., Houston TX 77006 is a founder of the Luck & Loessin Collection Trust, which supports the Fayette Heritage Museum, Archives and Library. She has responded to Zane Fehrmann's query in the previous issue regarding William Fehrmann, vice consul for the Republic of Texas at the Port of Bremen, and made suggestions to him as to various sources of documents pertaining to the Republic and the German immigration movement to be found in archives in Austin and New Braunfels as well as at Yale University.

Charles E. Riley 3315 N. Hills St., #205, Meridian MS 39305 is searching for information on Henry Syring, born in Germany in 1816. Charles does not know the date of his arrival in America, but it has been said he came at a "very young age." His information begins in Greene County, Alabama, where Henry married Susannah Evans in 1845. Although he does not know exactly how Henry arrived in Alabama, it is said he rode a mule from Pennsylvania. Charles has looked for him in that state, but has not found a Syring there. Because of the possibility that Henry Syring might have been on his way to Texas and merely been side tracked in Alabama, Charles would like to hear from the Texas Syring families to

see if there might be a connection to his own ancestor.

Selma Mikeska Smith 718 N. Olive, Seguin TX 78155 reports her grandfather, John H. Stulken, was born in Varel, Oldenburg, in 1843 and came to Galveston in 1870. He settled in Austin county and there married Johanna Schelling. They then lived in Lavaca County. His two brothers were Dietrich and Heinrich Stulken, all of a Lutheran family. Selma is looking for ancestors on both the Stulken and Schelling sides.

Louise Hollas Rt 3, Box 94, Rockdale TX 76567 is looking for information on Bernard Klekamp, also spelled Kleikamp, Kleekamp, and Kliekamp. He was a weaver from Ascheberg in Westphalia. She is also looking for information on Anton Giestman or Geistman and says it is difficult finding her great grandfather's immigration history. She thinks Bernard was a younger brother of Anton, and so far she can find only Anton. She would appreciate hearing from an Anton Giestman researcher. NOTE: Your Genealogy Editor found the emigration record for Joh. Bernh. Kleikamp in "Beiträge zur westfälischen Familienforschung." The entry shows he was born 25 August 1806, was a weaver from Ascheberg, and emigrated to America in 1835 with his wife, Clara Peuler (from Rinkerode) and one (unnamed) child, six years of age. Another Texas researcher has worked on this family and tells us that the child was a daughter, Elizabeth, who later married Bernard Geistman. Johann Bernhard Kleikamp must have died soon after arrival in Texas, for his widow Anna Clara Peuler Kleikamp married Bernhard Heinrich Schneider (Also known as Honermann) in either 1837 or 1839. Two of their four Schneider children married children of Anton and Annie (Straetenmann or Strabmann) Geistman. In at least one instance, Bernard Geistman was a marriage witness. So, it does not look to us like Anton and Bernard were brothers.

GTHS MEMBERS' GENEALOGICAL EXCHANGE

Members are encouraged to use this column format in sending information for the Journal. It gives readers the names, areas, and other facts "at a glance." Also, it is quicker for you to submit--and easier for your Genealogy Editor to compile! Let's have more for this section!

Member	Researching Surnames	Tex. County Settled	Religion
Edith B Baird Rt 4, Box T-98 Abilene TX 79601 915/692-1463	Braune Roessling Bergfeld	Comal/Guadalupe Comal/Guadalupe Comal/Guadalupe	Lutheran Meth/Luth Lutheran
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Janie Holland 338 Bluebonnet Dr Granite Shoals TX 78654 512/598-2021	Heinrich Heissig Kraege Menn Meyer Roth Zedler	De Witt De Witt De Witt De Witt De Witt De Witt De Witt	Lutheran Lutheran Lutheran Lutheran Lutheran Lutheran Lutheran
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Milton F Hausmann Rt 2, Box 196 Tarpley TX 78883	Hausmann Diebel	De Witt De Witt	Lutheran Lutheran

Genealogical Exchange, continued

Member	Researching Surnames	Tex. County Settled	Religion
Bill R Wittner 1705 Skyline Dr Russellville AR 72801 501/968-3334	Wittner	Austin/Washington	Lutheran
	Boecker	Austin/Washington	?
	Glaeser	Austin	?
	Hoffmann	Austin	?
	Kroener	Austin	?
	Haevischer	Austin	Lutheran
	Warmke	Austin/Washington	Lutheran
	Schwettmann	Austin/Washington	?
	Hohlt	Austin/Washington	?
	Thiele	Austin	Lutheran ?
	Leps	Austin	?
	Hinze	Austin	?
Streicher	Austin	?	

Edna Felps 3234 Gypsy San Antonio TX 78228	Tampke/Ruess/Hild	Guadalupe/Wilson	Lutheran
	Olfers/Bohlen	De Witt/NY State	Lutheran
	Fredericks/Reinhardt	Bexar	Lutheran
	Schievelbein/Lenz	Guadalupe/Wilson	Lutheran
	Duelm/Froelich	Comal/Guadalupe/Wilson	Luth
	Gembler/Wagner/Lieck	Bexar	Lutheran
	Ackermann/Eisenhauer	Bexar	
	Donsbach/Kempf	Guad/Bexar/Median	Lutheran
	Carlouis/Brietzke	Guadalupe/Bexar	Lutheran
Werner/Tucker	Guadalupe/Bexar	Lutheran	

Agnes Forster 107 Emporia #6 San Antonio TX 78209 512/826-7850	Speickermann	Lavaca/Fayette	Catholic
	Mayer	Unknown	Prob. Catholic
	Maeker	Unknown	Prob. Catholic
	Hojik/Hajek	Unknown	Prob. Catholic
	Hummel	Unknown	Prob. Catholic

Carla Trum 653 E 24th #5D New York NY 10009 212/260-3418	Scharnberg	Austin/Fayette	Lutheran
	Albrecht	Austin/Fayette	Lutheran

Selma Mikeska Smith 718 N Olive Seguin TX 78155 512/379-5508	Stulken	Austin	Lutheran
	Schelling	Austin	Lutheran

THE TEXAS BANDEMER FAMILY REUNION

The second Bandemer Family Reunion will be from 10:00 a.m. on August 11 until 9:00 a.m. on August 12 at the Bosque Bend Clubhouse, Speegleville I Park, Lake Waco, Waco, Texas. Relatives are to bring food, table service, sleeping bags, cameras, and old photos. Camping is available at the Clubhouse, but those desiring information on motels in the vicinity (or a map) may contact Wilber W. and M. Lynette Bandemer, 204 Chase Dr., Portland TX 78374, or call (512) 643-4674. Also, let Mr. & Mrs. Bandemer know how many will attend.

MY SCHUMANN ANCESTORS IN TEXAS AND GERMANY

By Clarence Anthony Scheel

Heinrich Schumann, my Great-Great-Grandfather, emigrated from Germany to New Braunfels, Texas in 1847, arriving on the ship B. Bohlen on January 2, 1847. Heinrich was baptized on November 23, 1814 in Hattenheim, Germany, which is located on the Rhein River approximately 15 miles west of Wiesbaden, in the Rhein Wine Region, just below the famous Schloss Johannisberg. In 1840, Heinrich married Katherina Klein, daughter of Stephan Klein and Anna Margareta Hofmann, from Hattenheim. Heinrich and Katherina had three sons, born in Germany: Friedrich (Fritz), Jacob and Valentin, and at least three sons born in Texas: Valentin Heinrich (Henry), Albert, and Carl. Additional information about their children follows:

Name	Birthdate	Spouse	Settled
Friedrich Schumann	Oct 14, 1840	Anna Maria Mikesch	New Braunfels
Jakob Schumann	Apr 11, 1842	None; died in infancy	
Valentin Schumann	Apr 15, 1844	Anna Maria Huebinger	S of New Brnfls
Valentin Heinrich Schumann	May 17, 1852	Carolina Schmidt	S of New Brnfls
Albert Schumann	Oct 08, 1854	Probably died in infancy	
Carl Schumann	Jun 22, 1856	Minna Orth	New Braunfels

Heinrich's father-in-law and mother-in-law, Stephan and Margareta Klein, had already immigrated to Texas in 1845, arriving on the ship Herschel on December 5, 1844. Arriving with the Kleins were their three other children: Joseph Klein-born in 1814, Valentin Klein-born in 1828, and Elizabeth Klein, born in 1835. Stephan Klein was one of the founding colonists of New Braunfels and drew lot #41 when New Braunfels was founded. His house, built in 1846, is located at 131 S. Seguin Street, has a Texas Historical Marker and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. (I mention the Kleins here since all descendants of Heinrich and Katherina Schumann are also descendants of Stephan and Margareta Klein.)

Friedrich (Fritz) Schumann married Anna Maria Mikesch in SS Peter and Paul Catholic Church in New Braunfels on October 27, 1866. They settled in New Braunfels where they raised their seven children:

Name	Birthdate	Spouse	Settled
Henry V. (<u>H V</u>) Schumann	Feb 18, 1868	Elfrieda	New Braunfels
Maria Catharina Schumann	Jan 29, 1871	Buried on Sep 8, 1872	
Anna Schumann	Mar 24, 1872	Never married	
Frederick Schumann	Baptized Aug 21, 1873	--no further information	
Adolph John Schumann	Feb 13, 1875	Buried Oct 23, 1875	
Mary Ottilia Schumann	Jun 10, 1878	Louis Voigh	
Alfred (<u>Edgar</u>) Schumann	Apr 29, 1888	Lillie Miller	

Valentin Heinrich (Henry) and Carolina (Schmidt) Schumann settled on a farm 4 miles south of New Braunfels where they raised their nine children:

Name	Birthdate	Spouse	Settled
Otto Henry Schumann	Aug 31, 1880	No further information	
Valentine Schumann	Jan 19, 1882	Frieda	
Bruno Albert Schumann	Apr 18, 1883	No further information	
Marcus Schumann	Feb 19, 1885	No further information	
Marcus Schumann	Oct 27, 1886	No further information	
Agatha A. Schumann	Apr 16, 1888	Edward Hell	
Leopold (<u>Leo</u>) Rudolph Sch.	Apr 03, 1890		S of New Brnfls
Robert Anton Schumann	Jun 14, 1892	No further information	
Emma Anna Schumann	May 12, 1894	No further information	

Carl Schumann married Minna Orth in SS Peter and Paul Catholic in New Braunfels on May 1, 1880. They settled in New Braunfels where they raised their ten children:

Name	Birthdate	Spouse	Settled
Henry Schumann	Mar 02, 1881	Died on Jan 23, 1883	
Maria Antonia Schumann	May 19, 1882	Died on Aug 02, 1905	
Henry Edward Schumann	Aug 20, 1884	No further information	
Albert Oscar Schumann	Jun 18, 1886	No further information	
Alexander Schumann	Jul 17, 1889	No further information	
Arthur William Schumann	May 19, 1891	No further information	
Herman William Schumann	Aug 30, 1896	No further information	
Ida Anna Eleanor Schumann	Feb 09, 1898	No further information	
Benjamin Schumann	Sep 25, 1900	No further information	
Theodore Schumann	Aug 01, 1903	No further information	

Valentin Schumann, my Great-Grandfather, married Anna Maria Huebinger, daughter of Christian and Katherina (Kneupper) Huebinger from Holler/Montabaur, Germany in SS Peter and Paul Catholic Church in New Braunfels on November 23, 1869. Valentin and Anna Maria Schumann settled on a farm four miles south of New Braunfels, (next to the farm where his brother Valentin Heinrich (Henry) lived) where they raised their family of twelve children:

Name	Birthdate	Spouse	Settled
Johan Fred (<u>Edward</u>) Sch.	Oct 07, 1871	Hulda Floege	Asherton
Heinrich <u>Albert</u> Schumann	Jun 26, 1873	Margaret Hesse	Converse
<u>Anton</u> Otto Schumann	Jan 03, 1875	Ida Siebold	Converse
<u>Rudolph</u> Carolus Schumann	Mar 15, 1876	Never married	New Brnfls
<u>Anna</u> Ida Schumann	Sep 27, 1877	Joseph Wenzel	Solms
Peter <u>Richard</u> Schumann	Aug 19, 1879	Emilia Lentzen	N. of New Brnfls
Peter <u>Hugo</u> Schumann	Sep 03, 1881	Olga Tausch	New Brnfls
Isidor Joseph (<u>Fritz</u>) Sch	May 10, 1883	Oflia Nowotny	New Brnfls
<u>Paul</u> Phillip Schumann	Dec 17, 1885	Ella Anna Werner	Solms
Hildegard (<u>Hilda</u>) Schumann	Apr 20, 1888	Theodore Wenzel	Solms
<u>Tekla</u> Otilia Schumann	Feb 18, 1891	Never married	Solms
<u>Louis</u> William Schumann	May 08, 1892	Tekla Behrendt	San Antonio

My Grandfather (and also my God-Father), Anton Otto Schumann, married Ida Augusta Siebold, who was born on September 22, 1877 near Magdeburg, Germany. She immigrated to Texas with her parents, Frank and Anna (Funke) Siebold, when she was 11 years old. Anton and Ida Schumann settled on a farm at Converse, Texas where they raised their six children:

Name	Birthdate	Spouse	Settled
Melania Marie Schumann	Mar 03, 1902	Alois Schwab	New Braunfels
Herbert Andreas Schumann	Jul 26, 1904	Elsie Ristow	Fashing
Irma Cresencia Schumann	Aug 04, 1906	Ehrhardt Krueger	San Antonio
Milton Richard Schumann	Mar 31, 1908	Gertrude Laubach	Converse
Mary Hilde Schumann (twin)	Sep 03, 1912	Adolph J. Scheel	Converse
Edna Carolina Schumann (twin)	Sep 03, 1912	Alfred Koehler	Cibolo

Anton Schumann not only was a highly respected and affluent farmer as well as skilled carpenter in the Converse area, but he also owned farms at Fashing and New Braunfels (Valentin Schumann homestead). As carpenter, he built several large farm homes in the Converse area. In the article by Robert H. Thonhoff about Fashing in the Winter 1989-1990 issue of the GTHS Journal, the name Schumann is mentioned. Anton Schumann purchased land at Fashing in 1924 and

his son Herbert A Schumann and daughter Edna Schumann Koehler (who later moved to Cibolo) settled that land. Although Herbert died in 1979, his widow, Elsie Ristow Schumann, still lives on the farm and raises cattle, just as she and Herbert had since 1930. My parents, Adolph and Mary Schumann Scheel, now live in the house which Anton built at Converse in 1906 and in which she was born.

Curious to find out more about Heinrich Schumann's ancestors in Germany, I visited Hattenheim during an American holiday in 1977 while stationed with the U.S. Army in Heidelberg, Germany from 1977 to 1980. After visiting the Catholic Priest in Hattenheim and verifying through church records that Heinrich Schumann was baptized in that church, the priest put me in touch with Fritz Schumann from Geisenheim, which is located about 5 miles west of Hattenheim. Fortunately, Fritz is also intensely interested in the Schumann Family history and provided me with a 250 page history of the Schumann Family in the Hattenheim area, covering the period 1356 to 1946. Fritz's brother-in-law, Professor Herman J. Himstedt, had been commissioned by Fritz's father, Carl Adolf Schumann, to research and write the family history. This history confirmed that Heinrich Schumann who immigrated to Texas was a member of the Schumann Family from the Hattenheim, Germany area.

Based on the Schumann Family History, the following ancestral tree was prepared:

#	Name	Born/Died	Town	Spouse
1	Hermann Schumann	Lived 1356	Eltville	
2	Hermann Schumann	Lived 1373	Wiesbaden	
3	Clesge Schumann	Lived 1415	Erbach	
4	Gobel Schuman	Lived 1423	Wiesbaden	
5	Niclas Schumann	Lived 1438	Erbach	
6	Contz Schumann	Lived 1438	Hattenheim	
8	Hermann Schumann	Lived 1442	Hattenheim	
10	Christman Schumann	Lived 1442	Hattenheim	
11	Clas Schumann	Lived 1459	Eltville	
12	Johann Schumann	Lived 1478	Eltville	
13	Michael Schumann	Lived 1488	Oestrich	
14	Wilhelm Schumann	Lived 1586	Hallgarten	
31	Johann Schumann	/1664	Hattenheim	Eulalia
51	Johann Valentin Schumann	/1708	Hattenheim	Anna Margareta Horadam
102	Johann Philipp Schumann	/1748	Hattenheim	Maria Elizabeth Finck
200	Johann Schumann Jr	1722/1784	Hattenheim	Anna Maria Eliz Goebel
298	Johann Baptist Schumann	1768/1830	Hattenheim	Appolonia Schneider
401	Heinrich Schumann	1814/	Hattenheim	Katherina Klein

Since all the towns named in the ancestral tree above are very near each other along the Rhein River and since most of those Schumanns owned vineyards and served as town officials, as well as other similarities, the Historian, Professor Himstedt, concluded that without much doubt the Schumanns from Hattenheim do in fact descend from Hermann Schumann (1) who lived in Eltville in 1356. However, it is impossible to determine exactly how the lineage goes from Schumann (1) through Schumann (14), and he has established that some of them are brothers. What is certain, however, is that Heinrich Schumann (401) did descend from Wilhelm Schumann (14), who lived in Hallgarten in 1586.

In a book entitled "Hattenheim", which is a history of the city of Hattenheim, the Schumann family is singled out as the most influential and respected family in Hattenheim from the 17th to the 19th century. Schumanns served Hattenheim in various capacities such as Lord Mayor, Mayor, Assessor, and Town Councilor. Several Schumanns had the title of Oberschultheiss, a position no longer used in Germany, but who in his time was a combination Lord Mayor and Judge. A Grandson of Johan Valentin Schumann (51), Dekan (Dean) Johann Valentin Schumann III (204), was a Catholic priest who used his family

inheritance to bring Italian Artisans to Hattenheim to decorate the Church interior in the Italian style with beautiful fresco paintings and statues throughout the church. The Schumann Families were strong supporters of the Catholic Church and several Schumanns, including Dekan Schumann, were honored by being buried inside the church. Every May, on the Sunday closest to the Anniversary of Dekan Schumann's death, a special mass is celebrated in honor of Dekan Schumann, who died in 1760. My family and I were fortunate to be able to attend the Anniversary Mass in 1978.

The Schumann Family History states that in 1946, 368 individual Schumann descendants of Johann Schumann (12) had been identified. They did not include Heinrich Schumann's descendants, since the Historian did not know that Heinrich had emigrated from Hattenheim to Texas. The history does not mention any Schumann immigrations to Texas, but it does mention that one branch of the family immigrated to France and that Robert Schumann, the Economic Minister of France when the European Economic Market was founded, was a family descendant. It also mentions that the Schumann Family in the Hattenheim area had declined to one male Schumann heir, Carl Adolf Schumann (594), whom I mentioned earlier. Carl had two sons and each of them has two sons, so that the Schumann Family in Germany is once again beginning to branch out. The Schumann Family in Texas, on the other hand, has blossomed rapidly since Heinrich's immigration and now numbers in the hundreds.

In his will, Carl Adolf Schumann, directed that his heirs maintain the Schumann Family History and continue to update it. I believe it would indeed be appropriate to add the Texas Branch, that is, the descendants of Heinrich Schumann, to the Schumann Family History. Personally, I have a considerable amount of data on descendants of Valentin Schumann, but very little on descendants of Heinrich's sons Friedrich (Fritz), Heinrich Valentin (Henry) and Carl, other than what I listed earlier in this article. If any GTHS member has researched or knows anyone who has researched descendants of these other sons of Heinrich Schumann, I would be interested in getting that data as well as old Schumann photographs with names identified so that I can assemble it and have the history of the Texas Branch added to the official Schumann Family History in Germany. A word of caution, however, on the Schumanns in Texas. As listed in "A New Land Beckoned" by Chester W and Ethel H. Gueue, there were several distinct, non-related Schumann Families from different areas in Germany, who came to the New Braunfels area. For instance, the Schumanns who settled Schumannsville near New Braunfels, were not related to Heinrich Schumann, as far as I have been able to establish. As an aside, I would also be interested in corresponding with anyone who has information on non-Schumann descendants of Stephan Klein whom I mentioned earlier. My address is: 717 Point of the Pines Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80919. Phone 719 528-5482.

OLFERS FAMILY REUNION

Sunday, July 15, is the date for the John B. Olfers Family Reunion at Raymond Russell Park, on I H 10 West, San Antonio. Relatives begin gathering at 10:30 a.m. and continue visiting until 6:00 p.m., with a potluck dinner shared at noon. The organizers provide eating utensils and coffee and iced tea.

When John B. Olfers came from Germany, he made his home at Arnekeville in De Witt County. He married Anna Friederichs in 1866. They had three children. Anna died in 1873; John married Louise Reinhardt and they has 12 children. John made his second home in the Cave Creek area of Gillespie County. In the 1920s he moved to San Antonio, where he remained until his death. Other surnames in the family, through marriage of John's 15 children include: Ottmers, Gold, Quindel, Schoenfeld, Hitzfeld, Flowers, Kroll, Sangerhausen, Witte, and Malty. There are 1,300 descendants throughout the world. The family book is hot off the press and for sale at the reunion.

Contact: Edna Felps, 3234 Gypsy, San Antonio TX 78228, (512) 434-2998

THE FAYETTE COUNTY RECORD Friday, April 6, 1990

Blankenburg-Foerster Reunion Held Recently

The annual Blankenburg-Foerster family reunion was held at the Extension Homemakers Building in La Grange March 25 with approximately 95 descendants of William and Johanna Steckman Blankenburg and Frank and Lena Brueggman Foerster in attendance.

Mrs. Linda Anderson led the family gathering in the noon prayer, after which a delicious basket lunch was served including various side dishes and desserts brought by the families.

Lawrence Blankenburg, president, conducted a short meeting after lunch. At this time family matters were discussed. Guido Blankenburg was recognized as the oldest family member, and Joseph Michael Cole, 15-month-old son of Amanda Cole from Pflugerville, was the youngest. Guido and Lucille Blankenburg from

El Campo was the couple married the longest - 57 years. The most recent married couple was Allen and Jessica Blankenburg from Pflugerville - 5 months. The family member traveling the farthest distance was Lydie Rueger from Germany. She is Enguid Blankenburg's mother. Lawrence Blankenburg and his family of La Grange traveled the shortest distance.

All the officers were re-elected. They are: Lawrence Blankenburg, president and treasurer; Gus Loessin, vice-president; and Carolyn Stockwell, secretary. The reunion will be held at the same time and place in March 1991 with a basket lunch again.

The remainder of the afternoon was spent visiting with family members and playing various games.

Martin Holz, Elsen 18, D-4428 Rosendahl (Osterwick), West Germany, is looking for descendants of emigrants from the Westphalian villages of Osterwick, Höven, Schöppingen, Legden, Varlar, Metelen, Horst, Midlich, Wülken, Ahaus, Coesfeld, Lette, Billerbeck, Holtwick, Wettringen, Darup, Selm, Haverbeck, Vreden and Brockb. between Münster and the Dutch border.

The surnames he is researching are Althoff/Doecker, Blonhausen/Kleining, Bömer, Börsting, Bohr, Borggreve, Brinkhaus, Brucks/Uppenkamp/Wenning, Brünning/Dinkheller, Bundhoff, Damer, Farwerk/Renskuper/Klerfken, Feldhaus/Berning, Ficker, Fleige, Funke, Gausling, Hakenfort, Hanneman, Haselkamp/Kortüm, Heidemann/Huester, Hensing, Heuer, Heumann/Edeler, Hörst/Epping, Huldrum, Hüllermann, Hüve, Jörden, Kaisekemper, Keller/Lembeck, Kemper, Kerkring, Kersting, Kleining, Klümpers/Feldwiesche, Kunst, Lauckamp, Lauman/Schlentker, Lehmann, Leifeld, Lembeck/Haring, Lenfert, Limbe/Limpke, Meickmann, Mersmann/Herring/Hünteler, Möllers, Nieland, Oberrecht, Panning, Feucker, Pier, Richters, Rohling/Höllmann, Röttgermann, Rövekamp, Sicking/Wesseling, Speckhaus, Spenke,

WESTPHALIAN DESCENDANTS SOUGHT

Stühle, Tasto, Theaker, Thiemann, Vogels/Stockbrink, Voges/Hensing, Vörding, Jamming, Wernsmann/Nergenu, Wiechert, Wilmers/Wieding, Wolter, Woltring, Fischer, Evers/Greshoff, Hollenborg, Püttmann/Brüggemann, Wolbeck and Wolters.

If you know people by any of these names whose ancestors may have come from Westphalia between 1836 (except Fleige, 1811) and 1872 (except Karkering, 1882, Lembeck, 1883, and Haring, 1893), please write Herr Holz, who is an archivist, or request the complete list of 187 immigrants, with details of occupation, birthdate and places of birth and residence, from Ed Brandt, 13 - 27th Ave. S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55414-3101.

You can also order a recently published 689-page local history of Osterwick, with some material on Höven, Coesfeld, Varlar, Asbeck, Horst, Midlich and brief references to other villages, through Herr Horst. The book has an 18-page index of surnames, as well as an 8-page subject index. Ed Brandt will xerox the indexes and send them to you at cost.

Colorado County Citizen, June 13, 1990 Hoelscher-Buxkemper Reunion Set

The biggest family reunion in Texas will convene in San Antonio when the Hoelscher-Buxkemper Family holds its 19th biennial reunion, June 16-17 at Villita Assembly Hall.

The dozens of cousins are all descendants of Anton and Mary Katherine Hoelscher, who came to Texas in late 1846 from Olifen, Westphalia, Prussia (now in the Federal Republic of Germany). They brought their four sons: Anton, Jr., Joseph, William and Bernard. A daughter, Elizabeth, followed in 1850 with her husband, Theodore Buxkemper and their three small children. Thus, the use of the of the hyphenated name, Hoelscher-Buxkemper.

Although they had a land grant in the Adelsverein's Fisher-Miller Grand, they did not occupy that land, but instead settled along the Fayette-Colorado county line, where the family called Frelsburg home. From there, sons and daughters pioneered such German Catholic farming communities as Westphalia in Falls County, Ofen in Runnels County and Violet in Nueces County.

Activities planned for the weekend include a bus tour of San Antonio, a golf tournament, musical entertainment, supper and a family dance, all on Saturday. On Sunday, the family will celebrate Fathers' Day and have activities which include a meeting, dinner and Mass.

All planning to attend should return registration forms and payments to Theresa Gold, 106 Ranchland, San Antonio, TX 78213, before June 6.

See additional story on same family reunion on next page

Family affair

State's biggest reunion grows deep, firm roots

THE GERMANS: This is one in a series on ethnic groups participating in this year's Texas Folklife Festival Aug. 2-5 at the Institute of Texan Cultures.

By **NELSON ALLEN**
Express-News Staff Writer

It was probably the biggest family reunion in Texas when the Hoelscher-Buxkemper family held its 19th biennial reunion June 16-17 at Villita Assembly Hall.

More than 1,000 (1,078 to be exact) descendants of Anton and Mary Katherine Hoelscher came from across Texas and as far away as Germany, where one descendant is stationed in the service.

Anton and Mary Katherine came to Texas in 1846 from Olfen, Westphalia, Prussia (now in Germany). They landed at Galveston with their four sons: Anton Jr., Joseph, William and Bernard. A daughter, Elizabeth, joined them in 1850 with her husband, Theodore Buxkemper, and their three children.

Today, descendants trace their ancestry back to one of the original siblings and mark which one by colors: Anton Jr., blue; Joe, purple; William, red; Ben, green; and Buxkemper, yellow. At the reunion, the descendants wore stick-on dots in one, and sometimes, two colors showing to which branch of the family they were related.

Following the pattern of many Germans who settled Texas, Anton and Mary Katherine came for the promise of land. They had a land grant in the Hill Country, but chose instead to settle along the Fayette-Colorado county line in Frelsburg.

Later sons and daughters pioneered German Catholic farming communities such as Westphalia in Falls county, Olfen in Runnels county and Violet in Nueces county. Descendants now number more than 14,000 and are into the ninth generation. Ninety percent still live in Texas; the rest are scattered across 41 states and four foreign countries.

Theresa Gold, who, with Donald Hoelscher and Jackie Lipski, compiled a 600-page volume, "The Hoelscher Family of Texas," has 3,350 families registered on her computer.

"We've always claimed to have



PHOTO BY DENNIS DUNLEAVY

Rosa Lee and Donald Hoelscher display an ancestral picture at the Hoelscher/Buxkemper reunion as others inspect memorabilia.

Folklife Countdown



Cultures That Made Texas

the largest family reunion in the state and no one has ever disputed it," Gold said.

As she spoke during the reunion, a descendant, Paul Kissling, played the accordion. Hundreds of other descendants sat at tables in the hall, or wandered about, looking over the family "museum" items (photos and old books) in one room or purchased bumper stickers and T-shirts.

The Rev. Marvin Kitten is associated with the Catholic Student Center at Texas A&M University. Kitten, whose color is purple, and other Hoelscher-Buxkemper descendants began the "largest university family reunion" there and recently celebrated their fifth annual campus reunion.

"We have between 30 and 40 members, students and faculty, each year. This is somewhat of an Aggie family," said Kitten, who attended Texas Tech University.

Kitten helped Bishop Leroy Matthiesen, of Amarillo, deliver Mass during the family reunion in San Antonio.

"It's amazing how everybody here looks familiar and related," joked Matthiesen, who wore a blue dot.

He said the reason the original Hoelschers didn't take their Hill Country grant was because the property was already occupied — by Comanches.

The fact that German settlers stuck together for generations may account, in part, for the Hoelscher-Buxkemper family keeping in touch.

"I grew up in a small, cotton farming community and didn't know anyone who wasn't German or Catholic. Our families still spoke German at home in the 1920s," Matthiesen said. "It was an ethnic folk island."

EXPRESS-NEWS, San Antonio, Texas, Monday, June 25, 1990

BEINHORN FAMILY REMINISCENCES

The old Beinhorn place was located where Campbell Road intersects Old Katy Road along the M.K.T. railroad in the Spring Branch Community, west Houston, Tx. The Post Office address was Hillendahl, Texas, at the time of my father's birth in 1897. This was where Christian and Mary (Maria Müller) Beinhorn raised their family of three boys and four girls. (Many years later I found that there were more.) These children were Albert, Louis, Will, Mary, Bertha, and twins Dora and Henrietta. The family were members of St. Peter Church located on Long Point Road, near the intersection of Campbell Road, a mile or so from the Beinhorn place. There were also family members buried in the church cemetery.

Wilhelmina Oberpriller was a daughter of Hyronimus and Mina (Schroeder) Oberpriller. Mrs. Oberpriller died during child birth when Wilhelmina was only three years old and Mrs. Herman Bauer, a neighbor, took Mina, as the child was called, home with her. Mina lived with the Bauers as one of their own until she married. Albert Beinhorn and Mina Oberpriller attended school at St. Peter's and were taught in German. Both were christened, confirmed, and later married in St. Peter Church.

Albert Beinhorn married Mina Oberpriller 7 May 1896 and they moved onto a tract of land on White Oak Bayou, ten miles or so from St. Peter Church and the old Beinhorn home place. However my father, Herbert John, was born at Hillendahl. Albert and Mina had two sons, my dad and Charles Arthur. In the early 1900's, Grandpa's sister, Mary and her husband, John Bauer, moved next to them, and Albert and John built a sawmill which they operated for several years. Herbert and Arthur boarded with their aunt Dora Noack in Houston Heights and attended Cooley School and the old Heights High School. Uncle Arthur also attended White Oak School which was located several miles across the bayou from their home.

During the First World War, Claude Pifer, a soldier from Indiana, was in training at Camp Logan on the west side of Houston. During field exercises in the Spring Branch area, he stopped at the Herman Bauer place for a drink of water and there met Hilda Bauer. It was love at first sight and they were soon married. Claude was shipped overseas to France and knocked out of action by poison gas. After he returned home to the Bauer place, his mother and youngest sister, Grace, age fifteen, came down from Elkhart, Indiana for a visit. This was in 1923. Since Beinhorns, were very close friends of the Bauers, it was only a short time until Herbert John met Grace Pifer. They fell in love, and after Grace returned to Elkhart, H. J. courted her by mail. In 1925 he bought a Star automobile and took off for Elkhart. They were married in Elkhart and came back to Texas, along with Grace's brother George, camping along the way. Quite a honeymoon!

Grandpa and Grandma gave adjoining five acre tracts of land to both of their sons. H. J. and Arthur built houses on their tracts which fronted on what was then known as Rosslyn Road (later W. 34th St.) northwest of Houston Heights. Uncle Arthur had married an Arkansas girl, Gellisa Adams, and they had four children, Allaire, C.A. Junior, Wilhelmina, and Patricia. I was born to H. J. and Grace in August of 1926, and my sister, Jean, arrived in October of 1930.

Although we were very poor, especially during the Depression years, I remember a very happy childhood. Grandpa was a jack-of-all-trades. He had a forge, anvil, and blacksmith tools and could weld and work with metal. He had cobbler tools and could repair shoes. He was an excellent carpenter and built quite a few houses. He had a sawmill at one time. He also had an old stationary gas engine mounted on a wagon with a buzz saw and traveled the Heights area sawing up firewood for people. He was a good truck farmer and sold his produce off a wagon and later, a truck. The family operated the old Heights Gun Club which was located on their property near the bayou. The men operated the trap machines, and the women made and brought sandwiches and drinks to sell at the refreshment stand. Grandpa also built a fine swing for me when I was very small and I was very proud of it.

Grandma was raised by Mrs. Bauer to be a proper lady and that she was. She loved to entertain and almost every Sunday afternoon the house would be filled with visitors, relatives and friends to have "Koffee." This usually included: jellies, preserves, coffee cake, bread pudding with sauce, blood sausage, liver wurst, sausage, souse, head cheese, cottage cheese, cream cheese and other good food. Grandma always made a great to-do over giving the kids their "Koffee," which was mostly milk with just a little coffee to give it color.

A very special time to me was the first good Norther. All three families had smokehouses and each would furnish a hog and maybe a calf. Usually we did the butchering at Grandpa and Grandma's as they had the best setup. Grandpa had a sled that was used in the operation. Dad would shoot the hog and cut its throat and immediately Aunt Gellisa would catch the blood in a large pan, continuously stirring so it would not congeal. A large wash pot setting over a fire provided the hot water for scalding in a large barrel set at an angle in the ground. After scalding, the hog was pulled out onto the sled and the hair pulled out, applying more hot water as needed. The sled was then pulled under a tree where a block and tackle was attached to a single-tree which spread the hog's hind legs apart to make it easier to work with when it was raised off of the sled. As the hog was gutted and cleaned, great care was used to save the needed intestines for use as casings for the various kinds of sausage. The large intestines or small stomach were used for the liver wurst, the smaller for the blood and regular sausage. Sometimes the folks would clean the bladder for a balloon for the kids. The hog was cut in half and carried into the screened porch and laid on a large table to cool overnight.

The next day the wash pot was fired up again and, as the meat was cut up, certain pieces were put into the pot to cook. Grandpa had made a power grinder that was powered by jacking up a rear wheel on his Model A and running a belt from a mandrel to a pulley bolted to the car wheel. The mandrel turned the handle of the large grinder. Not exactly a model of safety, but it worked great. This was used to grind both the pork and beef for the sausage mixture as the folks liked it about half and half with no sage. The sausage stuffer was jointly owned by several family members and was kept fairly busy during the cool months. Our smokehouse was a great smelling place the year round. Besides the smoking sausage, shelves along the sides of the building held huge crocks of bacon soaking in brine, and the odor penetrated the lumber of the building. Grandma made what she called Pot Wurst with blood and grits. It was great with eggs. Lard was rendered out and Grandpa did love to spread lard on bread and sprinkle a little sugar on it.

The three families had milk cows and, since we only had a hand pump for our water supply, we pastured our few head on Grandpa and Grandma's place where they had access to the Bayou. My job was to take them to pasture in the mornings and get them in the evenings and also do both the milkings. Grandpa and Grandma would usually be sitting on their screened back porch eating supper and I would stop and chat awhile and Grandma would give me a snack. Of course when I got the cows home and milked them, Mother had supper ready and I would pretend I was hungry. The old Gun Club mentioned earlier caused the death of two fine milk cows. They swallowed some of the spent shells and died of brass poisoning.

I visited with Grandpa and Grandma quite a bit as a boy and heard some stories about the old days. Grandpa died in December of 1946, shortly after I was discharged from service, and Grandma died the following July. I missed them greatly. Here are a few items that I remember them talking about: Great-Grandpa Christian left Germany as a young man to escape the military draft, but he had to serve in the Confederate Army a few years after his arrival. As a young man of nineteen he bounced his future wife, then age four, on his knee. He was a farmer and also a carpenter. He, and others, constructed the St. Peter Church building. I am sure that Grandpa acquired his great knowledge of so many different things from his father and that knowledge has been passed on to the following generations. Most all of the men folk are of the handyman type. Christian was also supposed to have worked for the M.K.T. railroad when the track was laid by his farm.

182

My Great-Grandma Mary lived until 1925 and the one thing that I remember hearing about her was that she always made fancy pillow cases with lots of tatting on them for each of her many grandchildren when they married. My Dad and Mother received the last pair she made just before her death in 1925. Mother still has them tucked away after all these years. She thought they were just too pretty to use. Evidently my father had very little contact with his grandparents. He seldom mentioned them. Christian died in 1905 from a black widow spider bite he received while bringing stove wood into the house. Dad was eight years old at the time and probably didn't know know him very well, but he should have been well acquainted with his grandmother Mary as she lived twenty years after her husband's death. My knowledge of my great-grandparents was very limited.

Christmas was a great time for all us kids in the Beinhorn clan. We did our gift exchanging on Christmas Eve, strolling to each house in the moon-light. At Grandpa and Grandma's we had to wait in the kitchen until Santa or Kris had made his delivery. No one had seen the tree as yet, that was strictly verboten, but when we heard a jolly "HO, HO, HO," we knew it was time to go into the front room to see a very pretty tree with gifts stacked under it. Funny thing, Grandpa was always out doing something like locking up the chickens and would come in later. We always had refreshments at each house. We kids would overeat on the hard candy, fruit, nuts, etc., sometimes to the detriment of our Christmas dinner.

Easter was a fine time too. Grandma always had a nest of eggs, boiled and candy, in her flower beds for each of her grandchildren. We would walk down to their place shortly after sunrise to claim our nest with all the goodies. We were very close families and got along with each other very well. My cousins were like sisters and brother to my sister and me. We still stay in contact and enjoy family get-togethers very much.

Some of the family social events that took place when I was a boy had a very distinct German touch. I would dream of visiting the "Old Country" and in 1944 when I went into the Army I secretly hoped that I would be sent to Germany. Of course I was sure hoping the fighting would be over when I got there. Well, this was not to be, and my dream grew dimmer as the years passed by. My wife Linda, although not of German stock, often expressed a desire to visit there also. So when we had money saved up to buy a new car in 1984 and received a brochure in the mail of a two-week trip to Germany sponsored by the Masonic Grand Lodge of Texas, we forgot about the car and signed up for the trip. Two glorious weeks, June 3 to June 18, to remember the rest of my life. There were 130 Texans on that tour and the names on the list indicated that many were of German descent. I told Linda, as we were sitting in a small sidewalk cafe, that I had a strange feeling of being home. Anyhow, my dream has been answered and just maybe it will reoccur.

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Albert Beinhorn and sons,
H. J. and Arthur--
with their traveling buzz saw

Teacher tracks ancestral history

By CAROL HARGRAVE DOBBS

Marie Gottfried likes to hang out at cemeteries, and the Katy Junior High School science teacher often takes the whole family along.

That's only appropriate, since her fascination with burial grounds has to do with research on her ancestors who settled in the Tomball, Rose Hill and Bear Creek areas in the mid-1800s.

Gottfried has become the family historian, recently completing the second in a three-volume private publication on the descendants of Friedericke Beckendorff Kobs.

The book was available at the recent 52nd reunion in Rose Hill of the descendants of Frederick "Fritz" Kobs Jr. and Dorothea Meyer Kobs. Fritz Jr. was the second of three children born to Friedericke Beckendorff Kobs and her husband, Frederick Kobs Sr.

Friedericke and Frederick Sr. were natives of Saxony in eastern Germany, and their three children — Wilhelm, Fritz Jr. and Friedericke Marie — also were born there in the 1830s.

According to family tales, Fritz Sr. was a musician, playing a bass fiddle in a band that specialized in performing at weddings.

In 1848, the family decided to follow Friedericke's "baby" brother, August Beckendorff Sr., who had emigrated to Texas the previous year.

"I don't know exactly why they left Germany," Gottfried said. "I have researched and found that there was a famine in 1847 and, in the spring of 1848, several revolts and riots started in France and

spread through Europe, England and Ireland. That was known as the Spring of Revolution."

Taking passage on the brig *Canopus*, the family left Bremen Oct. 6, 1848, and braved the ocean breezes for 10 weeks, arriving in Galveston in December.

According to some family records, they arrived in north Harris County, near what is now Tomball, on either Dec. 31, 1848, or New Year's Day. They bought a furnished home and 40 acres of land. One of the first priorities was to get some red meat. A neighbor gave Fritz Sr. the choice of any beef animal on his ranch for \$7.

This first homestead was west of the present State Highway 249 and south of Brown Road near Spring Creek Park.

"But they found the land was too sandy and they couldn't raise the crops they wanted, so they moved to the Rose Hill area where Kobs Road is now," Gottfried said. "Descendants are still living on the old homestead land today."

According to the 1850 Census, Fritz Kobs Sr. was a farmer with three horses, four "milch" or milk cows and two working oxen. He also grew 60 bushels of "Indian" corn. In 1860, he divided his land three ways, kept part for himself and gave each of his two sons 65 acres.

But by that time Fritz Jr. had left home, having met and married a young fraulein, Dorothea Meyer, Jan. 21, 1858. The Meyers, from Hanover, were early settlers of Bear Creek, which today is called Addicks. Fritz Jr. and his bride settled on a parcel near his in-laws.

By the time Fritz Jr. was conscripted into service with the Confederate Army during the Civil War, two sons had been born to the couple. He was assigned the task of digging trenches and making breastworks.

"A daughter (Hulda) was born to him and Dorothea in December 1863, so he must not have been far from home," wrote Gottfried about her ancestor's military service.

In all, Fritz Jr. and Dorothea had nine children, three of whom died while young. The remaining six married and five of them had descendants. Gottfried is some generations removed from their fourth child, another Dorothea. She was the only one to move away from the Bear Creek area, when she married Edward John Neuman, a farmer-rancher who lived in Pattison, about two miles north of Brookshire. Other family members continued

Houston Chronicle May 16, 1990

Neighborhood News Serving Katy/Bear Creek

Taking passage on the brig *Canopus*, the family left Bremen Oct. 6, 1848, and braved the ocean breezes for 10 weeks, arriving in Galveston in December.

to settle and populate the Bear Creek-Addicks neighborhood. Most farmed, raising potatoes, dairy and beef cattle, and chickens.

"They always had to deal with flooding," Gottfried said. "Records say 1879 was an especially bad year when everything rotted in the ground. But they learned to live with it."

Unfortunately for the Kobs and Meyer clans and other pioneer families in the area, city folks in Houston grew tired of water woes which they thought could be alleviated by a dam in the western outland.

The U.S. Corps of Engineers, through the power of eminent domain, took possession of 13,693 acres for the Addicks Reservoir and 12,583 for the Barker Reservoir. The Addicks Reservoir, which is north of Interstate 10, west of Houston and bisected by State-Highway 6, was completed in 1948. Barker, on the south side of Interstate 10, already was in place by February 1945.

"The government condemned the property and buildings and paid the owners for them," Gottfried said. "If you wanted the structure, you could buy it back and move it."

She said she recalls hearing a cousin talk about relocating their dairy farm operation from the Bear Creek area to Brenham.

"He remembers popping off the staples from the fence posts, rolling up the barbed wire and hauling everything off," she said. "At one time I thought the old homestead had been torn down entirely, but then I heard the concrete foundation was still there. However, it's way back in the woods and I haven't tried to find it."

Although the forced move grieved her relatives, they survived and most still live nearby, Gottfried said.

A representative of the U.S. Corps of Engineers Office at Addicks & Barker Dam said the flood control reservoirs prevent more than \$20 million worth of damage a year to the Memorial and downtown areas of Houston.

Gottfried, 32, said she first became interested in her family history when she was a little girl.

"My grandmother, Gussie Matzke Neuman, had all these old pictures that I liked to look at," said Gottfried, who lived next door. "The more I found out, the more I wanted to

know."

Other relatives supplied her with photos and stories. She also consulted church records, Census rolls, libraries and visited old country cemeteries.

"Sometimes there were no markers, but you could tell from shells or rocks outlining the area that there was a grave there," she said. According to family legend, the graves of Friedericke Beckendorff Kobs and Fritz Kobs Sr. were marked by fir trees. Fritz Sr. died somewhere between 1861 and 1865 and Friedericke, between 1867 and 1870. They were buried in a small private cemetery near Rose Hill which later became part of the Salem Lutheran Cemetery.

While riding a horse, Fritz Jr. suffered a stroke that left him unable to speak. He died Feb. 25, 1905, and was buried in the Addicks Methodist Cemetery. His wife, Dorothea, died in July 1921 and was laid to rest beside her husband.

Gottfried said her relatives had encouraged her to write a family history, but the real impetus for the project was the Christmas gift she received in 1985 from her husband, Mitch.

"He gave me an Apple IIC," she said. "It took me about six months just to learn how to turn it on because I had a new baby at the time that kept me busy."

Finally, she completed her first book — on Fritz Sr. and Friedericke's oldest son, Wilhelm Kobs, and the family branch in the Rose Hill area. The second was on Fritz Jr. and the third will be on the only daughter, Friedericke Marie Kobs, and her descendants.

"Her first husband was Jacob Metzler, with whom she had eight children," Gottfried said. "One of them was Dr. J.F.W. Metzler who is well-known in the history of Tomball. She later married Philip Kleb and they had four children."

Gottfried said she either was pregnant or just had a baby while working on each of the two books.

"Caroline, 4, was born at the beginning of the project on Volume I and John (now 7 months old), at the end of Volume II," she said. "Dare I start on Volume III?" She also has a stepson, Jake, 12.

"But then, it's no use having a genealogy unless you have descendants."



THE WILRICH/WILLRICH FAMILY

Our Willrich family has an unbroken family record back to Christian Willrich born in 1570. His son, Nicolaus, born 1595 near Giessen, studied in Helmstedt at the Julius University founded in 1576 by Duke Julius of Braunschweig. Nicolaus continued his studies in Jena. He returned to Helmstedt in 1635 to become the headmaster of the Helmstedt Latin School. In 1651 he married Catharina Harding of Helmstedt. He died in 1667 survived by his wife and five children. The Latin funeral sermon composed by the Assistant Rector and the Senate of the "Academia Julia" is preserved in the state archives at Hannover. All known Willrichs/Wilrichs trace back to Nicolaus.

My great-grandfather, Georg Carl Willrich, immigrated to Texas in 1846. He was a graduate of the University of Goettingen and a judge in the province of Hanover. Georg Carl's first two wives died young. The first after the birth of one son, the second after the birth of her ninth child. Georg Carl arrived in Texas in 1846 accompanied by two of his sons. His third wife, Elise Kukuck Willrich, followed in 1847 with four of his daughters and a son and daughter of their own. Georg Carl and Elise left everything to find a more democratic way of life for their children. My grandmother was the only child born here. She was born in 1849 at Mount Eliza, Bluff, Fayette County, Texas. Some of the letters of our great-grandmother, Elise Willrich, appear in The Golden Free Land by Crystal Sasse Ragsdale.

The family kept up with their German relatives as best they could. I remember as a child that my grandmother corresponded with the family of a half-sister as well as with a cousin. Grandmother died during the war and addresses were lost. We had no contact until the 1970's. In 1976 we had a Texas family reunion in LaGrange. At the time of the Bicentennial a German relative, then living in Illinois, showed his children the family record and discovered that he had an ancestor who had settled in this country and that he and his children had American relatives. He was Dr. Karl Ludwig, a professor at Northwestern University, born in Heidelberg, and a descendant of the oldest son of our great-grandfather. He literally "found" us in Texas and was amazed when he came to LaGrange to see on the dining room table the same chart, dating back to Nicolaus, as the chart his family had back in Heidelberg. So an ocean was crossed again and a bridge was built to close the gap. Dr. Karl Ludwig died several years ago, but his son comes to our reunions every two years in LaGrange. His brother, Heinz-Georg Willrich, has come here to meet us and we have been in his home in Heidelberg. Through these contacts we were included in the reunions in Germany. The German Willrichs have had reunions before the war and renewed the every two year meetings beginning in 1982. The German relatives are the descendants of the eldest son of Georg Carl, the descendants of his brother, and those of his cousins. During the war, the family papers were stored in a secure place and were not destroyed. After some search by a cousin, they were located in the state's archives in Pattenson, near Hannover. In 1984 I was privileged to attend the German reunion and took a side trip to Pattenson. You can imagine my surprise when I saw in those archives the very same picture I

have of my grandmother, Louise W. Koehler. It was taken in Weimar, Texas, in the 1930's. There were letters written by my grandmother and her sister, Anna W. Groos. All were perfectly preserved. Other surprises were the very good English spoken by several relatives plus the fact that one had been studying at Stanford on a Fullbright scholarship.

The German reunions are held in various places with the family members living there extending an invitation. Eight Texans attended the 1984 Helmstedt reunion. Places visited on a tour of the town included the restored buildings of the old university, St. Stephan's church where Nicolaus and Catharina were married, and the site of the Latin School. I have been back one other time, in 1986, when the reunion was held in Goettingen where we visited the University attended by my great-grandfather. Several went back in 1988 to Wiesbaden and eight went in May, 1990, to Bonn. This reunion was very special as some younger East Germans were able to attend for the first time. The family name in the East is spelled Wilrich. They, too, trace their name back to Nicolaus. Joachim Willrich, of Braunschweig, spent much time in translating to English the Newsletter sent to all family members, and we have admired him so much for his efforts. Until we Texans started visiting Germany in the past decade, he had not spoken English since studying it as a school boy. His efforts were much appreciated by those here who know not one word of German. All who knew him were saddened to learn of his death on May 18, 1990. He was 73 years old.

The reunions in Texas are held in alternate years. So far, besides the 1976 reunion, we have had one in 1985, 1987, and 1989. Those attending include descendants of two of my great-grandfather's cousins who immigrated to this country in the late 1800's. Their descendants live in Washington State, California and Nevada. Seven German relatives attended the 1989 reunion. These reunions have always been held in LaGrange over a long weekend when the bluebonnets are in bloom. A family board meeting is usually held Friday evenings. On Saturday at noon we gather for a picnic at the restored farmhouse built originally by Georg Carl in 1846 with the help of the stone mason, Henry Kreische. Todd and Paul Schenck, the wonderful people who moved and restored Mount Eliza allow us to meet on their property and see the restoration progress. Approximately 200 have assembled for the photographs taken with the old home in the background. We are eternally grateful to the Schencks for their foresight in saving the old house and for their gracious hospitality. The house is part "fachwerk" and the kitchen has a European hearth. The University of Texas at Austin architecture students documented this house in 1976. My grandmother and my mother were born there.

Submitted by: Katharine Gebhardt Powell
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**The article on the next page
pertains to this family story.**

Did They Arrive at Ellis Island?

The Ellis Island Immigrant Center was opened on 1 Jan 1892. If your immigrant ancestor(s) arrived at the Port of New York prior to that date, he/she/they did not arrive at Ellis Island! In 1855, Castle Garden, an old fort on the lower tip of Manhattan, was designated an immigrant station, operating first under state supervision and later, after 1882, under Federal contract. So, **immigrants arriving at New York between 1855 and 31 Dec 1891 arrived at Castle Garden--not at Ellis Island!** This does not make any difference in locating an arrival record for passengers arriving through the Port of New York--but it will make a difference in your family history narrative about their arrival!

Endlich geschafft! Aus Ungarn nach Hameln

Familie Lange aus Radeberg schloß Cousin Klaus Willrich gestern nacht überglücklich in die Arme

ube HAMELN. „Meine sehr verehrten Damer und Herren, liebe Bundis.“ So begrüßte ein Mitglied des Ungarischen Roten Kreuzes die mehr als 2500 DDR-Flüchtlinge im Lager Zanka. Unter ihnen: die vierköpfige Familie Lange aus Radeberg bei Dresden. Seit gestern nacht sind sie in Hameln bei ihren Verwandten und „desbürger“ genannt worden, wußten wir, wir werden bald ausreisen können. Da haben alle nur noch gefeiert,“ beschreibt Dieter Lange (40) die letzten Stunden vor der langersehnten Ausreise in den Westen. Ehefrau Gudrun: „Es war toll. Sektorkorken fliegen, zwei Nächte konnten wir vor Aufregung nicht schlafen.“

Die Eheleute Lange und ihre beiden Töchter Kristin (14) und Stefanie (8) sind als erste DDR-Bürger in der Weststadt eingetroffen, nachdem Ungarn am 11. September die Schlagbäume hochzog. Vier weitere meldeten sich gestern vormittag im Hamelner Rathaus. Die Friseurmeisterin und der Diplom-Ingenieur für Informationstechnik entschlossen sich spontan zur Flucht in den Westen. „Ein Vi-



Das erste Eis in Westen schmeckt besonders: DDR-Familie Lange (vorn) genießt mit ihren Hamelner Verwandten die Freiheit in der Bäckerstraße. Foto: Dewezal/Wai.

Finally achieved - it's accomplished! Through Hungary to Hamlin the family Lange of Radeberg embraced their cousin Klaus Willrich last evening. The family Lange of Radeberg near Dresden: father, mother, and two daughters, did it! Last night the GDR fugitives arrived in the rat-catcher town of Hameln (Hamlin). They traveled from camp Zanka in Hungary through Austria to the Bundesrepublik, Germany. The four found accommodations with relatives in Hamlin. The husband, Dieter, a certified engineer, found a job and was able to find a flat with the help of his cousin, Klaus Willrich of Hamlin.

For further explanation: Klaus Lange is the nephew of Joachim Willrich. His mother is Liselotte Willrich Lange, a descendant of our great grandfather's cousin. Since the wall came down, she has been in Braunschweig to help her sister-in-law during the illness of her brother, Joachim.

Pioneer Hartmann One of First Yorktown Residents 187



Photo & story courtesy
Mrs Marianne E Little
11423 Sagewhite Drive
Houston TX 77089

CLEMENS GEORG LUDWIG GOTTLIEB HARTMANN

Clemens George Ludwig Gottlieb Hartmann was born in Hildesheim, Kingdom of Hannover on 16 November 1819, the son of August Friedrich Carl Hartmann and his wife, Anna Margaretha Bahre (daughter of Peter Ludwig Bahre and his wife, Anna Elisabeth Koch of Hildesheim). August Friedrich Carl Hartmann was the son of Johann Georg Clemens Hartmann and his wife, Marianna Friederica Blume. Johann Georg Clemens Hartmann was the son of Christian Gottfried Hartmann and his wife, Eleonora Lobedanz. Due to the position that Clemens father, August held in the Reichstag (which corresponds to our congress), Clemens received his formal education and degrees from the University of Hannover, Clemens profession became that of a German government engineer and surveyor.

On 1 August 1845, Clemens, his brother, Hermann aged 17, and his sister, Marie left Bremen on board the Margaretha and arrived in Galveston, Texas on 25 September 1845. By January 1846, Clemens was a resident of Indianola or Powderhorn

as it was called then. During the Mexican War in the spring and summer of 1846, Clemens served as a private in Company H, First Regiment of Texas Rifles, under the leadership of Captain August Buchel. When Clemens returned from the Mexican War, he became employed by S A White to survey and lay out the town of Indianola. He laid out the town to follow the natural curve of the bay and completed this assignment in the winter of 1846/1847.

On 2 July 1847, Clemens married Sophia Teresa Struber/Strieber in Indianola, Calhoun County, Texas. By the summer of 1848, Clemens and Sophia had built and moved into the first occupied dwelling house in Yorktown, DeWitt County, Texas. Nine children were born to this couple and eight survived their parents. The first child was August Clemens who was born in 1849, followed by B W (who married a Mr. Lucas), Clementine (who married a Mr. Villalobus), William was born 9 June 1854 (married Emma Ardelia Woods), Louisa (married Mr.

SOPHIA TERESA STRUBER/STRIEBER

Mans), Albert, Emma (married Mr. Roberts) and Edward

At the outbreak of the Civil War, Clemens joined Captain Henry G. Woods Shiloh Home Guards of DeWitt Co. Texas. On 13 August 1861, Clemens enlisted in the Confederate States Army and had the rank of Private in Company C, 2nd Regiment of Texas Infantry. This unit engaged in battle at Shiloh, Farmington, retreat from Corinth, Chickasaw Bayou, Fort Pemberton as well as the siege of Vicksburg, Mississippi. On 18 May 1863, Clemens was wounded.

In the Spring of 1867, Clemens was appointed County Surveyor by the DeWitt County Commissioners. He held this office by appointment and election until he retired in 1888. He served as the first constable in Yorktown and also served as a deputy clerk for Judge Roston and Judge Grafton. Clemens also held the position of notary public until 31 March 1893. He was also one of the three surveyors to survey the City of San Antonio, Texas, during the spring of 1871.

Shortly after the Civil War, Clemens joined the Masonic Order and eventually became a Master Mason.

Clemens wife, Sophia was

the daughter of Johann Joseph Andreas Struber/Strieber and his wife, Johanne Henrietta Amalie Louisa Schrader Struber/Strieber. The Struber/Strieber family was also a part of the Fischer-Miller/Verein immigrants to South Texas. They departed Bremen on 13 August 1846 and arrived in Galveston on 24 October 1846. Sophia's father, Andreas was one of the first landed proprietors of Yorktown, signed the contract to buy the land for the City of Yorktown on 3 July 1854. Sophia died on 20 January 1892 and at her request was buried in her daughter-in-law, Emma Woods Hartmann's family cemetery (Woods Cemetery, Shiloh, Yorktown, DeWitt Co., TX). As Clemens health began to fail, he gave the homestead to his son, Albert and moved back to Yorktown where he lived with his son, August Clemens. Clemens died at 11:40 p.m. on 30 September 1899 and was buried the following day at Woods Cemetery, Shiloh, Yorktown, DeWitt County, Texas next to his beloved wife, Sophia.

Looking for Jacob Hirsch

By: Del Hirsch, 1202 Seafler #55, Houston TX 77042

In the old Protestant cemetery in Fredericksburg lie the remains of one Jacob Hirsch, 29th Mass. Vol. Inf. To the best of my knowledge, there are no longer any Hirsches in Fredericksburg, although the family of his wife, Mary Neffendorf, seems to be well represented.

From time to time since early childhood, I have gazed at this lonely little government grave marker and simply wondered, "Who were you, Sir? Speak to me." But, so little seemed to be known. Our family lacked cohesion, at least in the third generation, even though Jacob's son, Henry, was Gillespie county judge for many years, and another son, Max, was an outstanding trainer of Thoroughbred horses.

I suppose nothing would have been done about trying to know this gentleman had there not been a curious change of circumstances. Several years ago, my good friend, Ronald F. Jenschke, formerly of Fredericksburg, and I decided to visit the old cemeteries of Fredericksburg. We had to visit his family in the Catholic cemetery and mine in the Protestant. Ron found Jacob's grave before I did. But, things were not the same. The little government marker remained, but behind it were two beautiful new markers, one for Jacob and one for his wife, Mary! Where had they come from? I still have not been able to discover who ordered them.

Over the years, I have become a fairly competent student of the Civil War, so the sight of these new grave markers set off a mechanism in my mind that overcame my reluctance to write letters. The waters are murky and time is rarely available, but it can be stated that I now know far more about Jacob Hirsch than any member of his immediate family ever did. I have found very little in writing to show they know any more about him than he wanted them to know.

So far, I have traced Jacob Hirsch from Antrup (sp?) to Boston where he joined the Union Army as a substitute and served honorably. At war's end, he reenlisted in the Regular Army. His regiment headed to Texas and landed at Galveston. From there, Jacob went to San Antonio. By the time he was discharged in 1867, he had deserted twice and had been jailed twice in San Antonio. His last assignment was at Fort Concho, today's San Angelo. A number of Germans from Fredericksburg had been hired to rush completion of the fort. This is probably the connection that took Jacob to Fredericksburg after his discharge from the army. My research stops there.

There is so much more that needs to be done before I have any chance of publishing the book I am writing about Jacob Hirsch. Therefore, I am asking your help. Will you help me to know better my great-grandfather, Jake? I am looking for documents regarding his career in Fredericksburg, and it would be helpful if I could make a contact with the Neffendorf family historian, if there is one. By fall, I hope to move to my retirement home at Canyon Lake, which will place me closer to the sources for my research.

Name: Jacob Hirsch

Born: 17 Jan 1840, Hamburg, Germany

U.S. Army: 1864-1867

Moved to Fredericksburg: 1867

Possibly held position of deputy sheriff

Later, Postmaster, 1888

Collector of Customs, Port Lavaca, when?

Married: Mary Neffendorf, 7 March 1870

Member: GAR

Religion: Lutheran; could he have been Jewish?

Children: Herman, Louis, Henry, Max, Hulda, Olga

German-Texan Heritage Society

Founded in 1978, the German-Texan Heritage Society is a non-profit organization devoted to building pride in the heritage of the German-speaking settlers who brought an important cultural ingredient to Texas. The Society is united in its effort to disseminate information about archives, research projects, cultural events, folklore, publications, and meetings related to German-Texan topics.

The Society seeks members from the general public . . . descendants of all German-speaking peoples, researchers, genealogists, history enthusiasts, folklorists, preservationists, and those interested in the German-Texan experience.

A JOURNAL is published three times a year (50-75 pages). It is sent to all members. The JOURNAL features a genealogical section which includes hints about research in German-speaking countries, Texas, and the United States; brief family histories submitted by members, and a genealogy exchange column. Other sections of the JOURNAL include reprints of articles from other publications, announcements about activities and events, a book review column, an annual index, and original essays about various topics related to German-Texana.

An ANNUAL MEETING is held the second weekend in September in various German heritage areas of Texas. The program emphasizes the German-Texan heritage and includes talks, slide shows, show-and-tell sessions, and discussions by researchers, preservationists, folklorists, authors, members who have a story to tell and guest experts in specific fields; informal social events; plays and music; and tours of historical sites in the host city.

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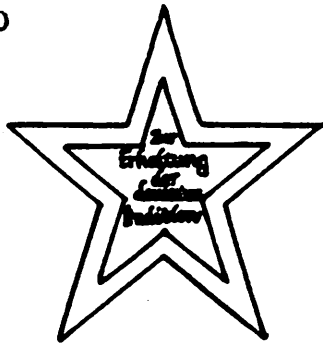
Completed projects of the Society:

1. The reprint of *ROEMER'S TEXAS*,
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3. The reprint of Rudolph Biesele's *THE HISTORY OF THE GERMAN SETTLEMENTS IN TEXAS 1831-1861*.
4. *THE HANDBOOK AND REGISTRY OF GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE*.

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For more information or price lists for books and back issues contact:

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 P. O. Box 262
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GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

<u>ISSUE</u>	<u>DEADLINE</u>
Spring	February 20
Summer	June 20
Fall	October 13

Subscriptions should be sent to the Membership Editor. Announcements, articles, genealogical inquiries, conference, meeting and reunion dates, news of other German heritage events, etc., are always welcome from members. Correspondence, contributions and manuscripts for publication should be sent to the Editor-in-Chief or to the appropriate member of the Editorial Board. Deadlines are posted on this page.

All articles must be typed, SINGLE SPACED, on 8 1/2-inch by 11-inch white paper, with a 1/4-inch margin on all edges. The Editor-in-Chief has the right to refuse any materials that may not be in accordance with the by-laws of the German-Texan Heritage Society.



ANNUAL MEETINGS

1990---Sept. 7-9
BRENHAM
Elizabeth Lehmann
604 Atlow Dr.
Brenham TX 77833

199 ---Sept 6-8
CORPUS CHRISTI
Ingrid Brock
4317 Patrick
Corpus Christi TX 78413
(512) 852-8751

1992---NEW BRAUNFELS

1993---SAN ANGELO
Otto Tetzlaff
Angelo State Univ.
San Angelo TX 76901
(915) 944-1927

1994---FREDERICKSBURG

1995---VICTORIA

1996---INDUSTRY
Celebration, 150 Years
of Texas Statehood

1997---KERRVILLE/BOERNE/COMFORT

Addresses of Interest to GTHS Members

Generalkonsulat
der Bundesrepublik Deutschland
(Consulate General of the
Federal Republic of Germany)
1330 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 1850
Houston TX 77056

German Genealogical Society of America
P. O. Box 291818
Los Angeles CA 90029

German Information Center
950 Third Ave.
New York NY 10022

German National Tourist Office
747 Third Ave.
New York NY 10017

Goethe Institut Houston
German Cultural Center
3120 Southwest Freeway, Suite 100
Houston TX 77098

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Don Heinrich Tolzmann, President
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